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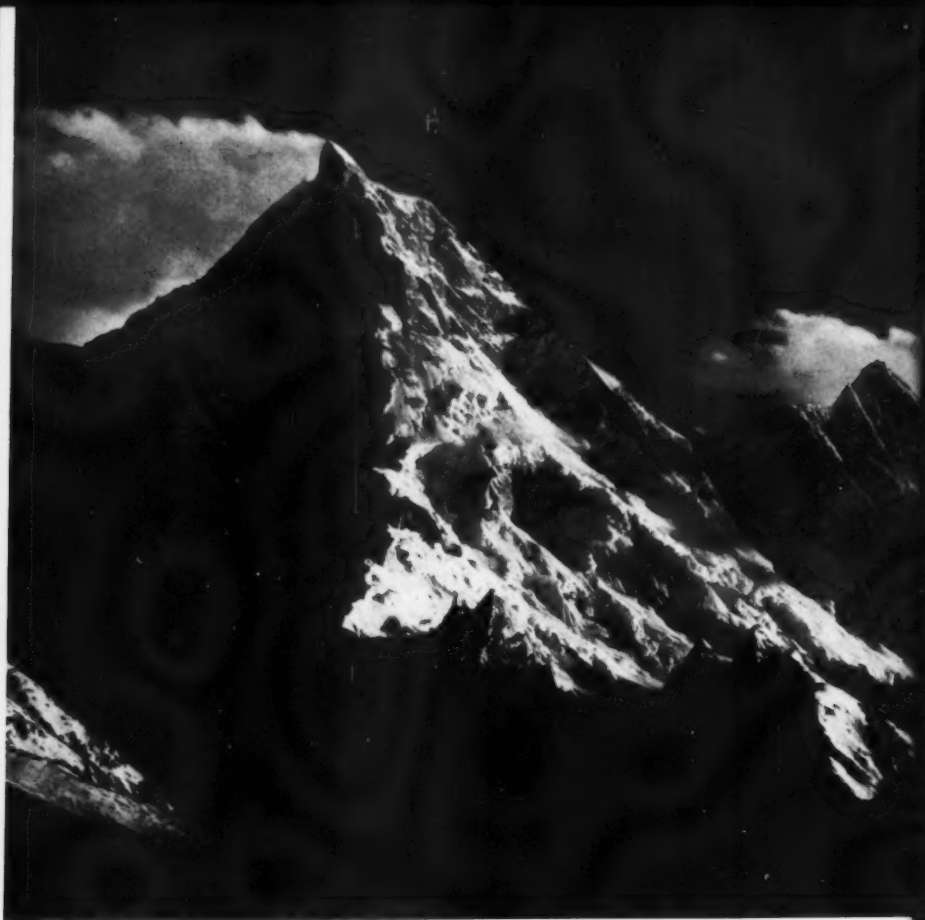
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Masherbrum from the Baltoro Glacier, by George Bell

Masherbrum 1960

By RICHARD M. EMERSON

WE WERE FLYING at the plane's ceiling, some 16,000 feet, but even so the undercarriage cleared minor ridges and passes with no margin worthy of the name. The right wingtip was tracing a 16,000 foot contour line around one of the great mountains, marking the waistline of Nanga Parbat; and although it may sound unbelievable, Willi Unsoeld was speechless! We had to bend low and twist our necks

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Sierra Club Bulletin



*A Texan gets three Americans
and a Pakistani to the top
of a Himalayan giant*

back hard to see where the summit would be, some 10,000 feet above us. Willi finally broke his silence: "Hermann Buhl actually *stood* there . . . and there's the Silbersaddle! . . . Look at those ice slopes! Thirty-one climbers have died on them." It was a beautiful mountain for their headstone. But of the many beautiful things I have seen, nothing is so cold, so immense, and so spectacularly impersonal, as that view of Nanga Parbat.

Once past that mountain the pilot found his way down between the narrow canyon walls holding in the Indus River, and we unloaded

A former Mountain Trooper and National Park Service climber (in the Tetons), Dr. Emerson was one of several Sierra Club members on the 1960 American Pakistan Expedition. He is Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Cincinnati.

at Skardu. Here, for the first time, we were all together within striking distance of Masherbrum and we could look at ourselves as a party intact.

As I look at that party again now, I have an acknowledgment to make. For a peculiar thing has happened in American mountaineering. Over several decades, score upon score of exceedingly skillful climbers in this country have advanced their climbing technology, their personal skill, and their ability to a level certainly equal to the best in the world. With remarkable individual ability among American climbers, ascents such as the "Diamond" and the South Face of McKinley (to select only two, and quite different, examples) were bound to be accomplished with "ease" and safety. We were certainly not surprised because we knew the climbers were thoroughly capable. Today, as a result, we approach the time where no proposed climbing objective can be classed as "impossible" for American climbers, although there are many objectives which might just possibly be classed as "pointless." I think I accurately impute an abundance of skill to American climbers, yet we are faced with this fact: in recent years the "big peaks" have fallen in rapid succession to predominantly European parties. Whatever the reasons, American climbers have been embarrassingly absent from the summits of high Himalayan peaks.

But not completely absent, and this brings me to a peculiar thing that must be acknowledged. The two most notably successful American expeditions (Hidden Peak and Masherbrum) were *both* conceived and carried out by one young man from Texas, and a man who continually claims that he possesses none of those individual climbing skills that so many climbers base their pride upon! While many modern climbers busily sharpen their technique and build a reputation on new routes classed from 5.9 to "high 6," Nick Clinch smilingly tells his associates, "You know, I can't climb worth a darn."

On the recent Masherbrum trip Nick Clinch, without trying to at all, forced me to recognize quite clearly that much of the recent development in American mountaineering is founded on trivial if not false values. Nick himself might disagree with my statement, but it is through witnessing his performance in the sport, and his devotion to it, that I am led to see it that way.

This is my acknowledgment to Nick Clinch, and it is much more than a conventional gesture toward the man who conceived and organized a trip which I had the pleasure to take part in.

I saw Nick's determination for the first time when I initially declined his invitation. He would not take my no and let it go at that, insisting that I at least try hard to remove the obstacles. After a conference with my Dean and some other administrators, I was released to take part, and from that moment until our return to Skardu late in July, I found myself totally submerged in the enterprise. That, I think, is what makes a Himalayan climb so rewarding and unique: it presents a task so demanding that all one's capacities are called upon over a prolonged period. Your endurance and skill, your patience, reason and humor, and your relationships with people are all put to a test. Nothing could be more basically therapeutic. It is one kind of wilderness experience. These are the important features of all mountaineering, and whether the climb is classed as three or six is really quite beside the point.

THERE were sixteen climbers on Masherbrum, including six porters, and there are sixteen overlapping stories to be told. Mine, being only one of them, began when I boarded a plane at the Greater Cincinnati Airport, virtually quivering with mixed doubt and excitement, aroused, I guess, by my son's and daughter's tears on one hand, my wife's anxious look on the other, and by my ambition to climb. Some weeks later the party boarded a DC-3 for the flight from Rawalpindi to Skardu. I felt no doubts at all by that time, but the excitement of anticipation was almost crippling. So was a certain amount of tenseness as we scraped Nanga Parbat, landed at Skardu, and took physical inventory of ourselves.

George Bell was our mountaineering leader, and he was perfectly picked for the job—another tribute to Nick's planning. He and Nick had worked together to get us there. Us included Dick McGowan, an expert in snow and ice technique, strong and in fine shape; Tom Hornbein, our Medical Officer, physiological researcher and in general, busiest member; Willi Unsoeld, our conscience and, as it turned out, our backbone; Tom McCormack, our youngest member, having a remarkable way with people, Pakistani as well as American, and having natural poise on the mountain. Captains Imtiaz Axim (Imty), Jawed Akbar (Javee) and Akram (Quereshi) were members of our climbing team assigned to the expedition by the Pakistan Army, which acted as co-sponsor with the American Alpine Club. And finally, Razul, our chief porter and Sirdar, a small man with the strength of two and the

only man alive who can get a string of laden porters to make a 35-mile carry in one day. As a postscript, I learned my mountaineering in Utah, the Mountain Troops, and the Tetons; I also had a sociologist's interest in that specialized form of organized society, the mountaineering expedition.

The rest house at Skardu was in a state of chaos a moment after we arrived. Dick McGowan wasted no time digging out the equipment and getting it distributed and assigned. This involved process stopped abruptly when the brightly colored packs were spread among us. Someone, I forget who, carried his pack over to Dick and asked him how to assemble it. We gathered around. If you have ever tried to teach a climbing student how to tie a prusik with his teeth while hanging on free rappel, you might then appreciate McGowan's task. We never did learn how to coordinate that maze of strings, straps, grommets, and zippers called a pack. A lot of theory went into its design, based upon the principle of four-way tension: nervous system, spinal column, small-of-the-back, and spleen. Printed on the pack were the words "A ----- Creation." During the next two months we filled in my blanks with every conceivable pair of adjectives. They all carried the



same meaning, and the name actually printed there was thoroughly identified with that meaning. In the end, for all we had said, we felt we had not said enough.

The march in took us up the Indus River valley to its confluence with the Shyok River; up the Shyok to the village of Kaplu (or Kapalu), and finally up the Hushe Valley to base camp. The three-day climb up the Hushe Valley begins with a float trip across the wide Shyok River on "Zoks," inflated goat skin rafts which hiss air all the way across. The raft is kept afloat by a maneuver resembling mouth-to-mouth respiration between a goat and a Balti seaman. In the Hushe Valley the mountains change from impressive to spectacular. Bare rock spires soar upward on all sides from nine thousand to nineteen thousand feet, seemingly immune to all effects of erosion and gravity.

Much could be said about Hushe and the "Hushewallas," seventy families whose ancestors "always lived there." They spend the summer in their fields and on the roofs of shoulder-high, one-room, no-window huts. The passageways through the village are roofed over, and they spend their winters quite literally snowed under. A couple of miles up from Hushe there is a very small natural forest of juniper, whose ancestry is no doubt as old as the Hushe's. The latter have been living off the former from the beginning of time, without depleting this scant wood supply. The people of Hushe take their conservation policy as a matter of divine law and overwhelming necessity.

Some of the more affluent porters who joined us at Skardu drew their pay and were replaced at Hushe, one day short of the end. They apparently knew that the last day would take us up some 3,500 feet, over glacial moraine and into the snow for the last six or seven miles to base camp. For heavily laden porters, some wearing skin moccasins and others barefoot, it was a most remarkable fifteen-mile trip, and when they all arrived at base camp late in the afternoon, they were paid and thanked and started their return trip immediately.

In the light of all that has been written about porter strikes and rebellion in the Karakoram, it is significant that we had none of this! The porters made long carries with little or no complaint, and generally seemed proud to do it. I attribute this fact to (1) the leadership of Razul, our Sirdar; (2) the intelligent handling of porters by Bell and Javee; (3) the advance planning by Bell and Clinch; and (4) the development of a professional attitude among Balti porters encouraged by Brigadier UR-Rehman Khan, the Political Agent. Things are looking up in Baltistan owing largely to Rehman's administration.



Masherbrum from the Hushe Valley, by Willi Unsoeld

We spent one day around base camp, feasting our eyes and putting things in order. We were camped at 13,500 feet in a cirque whose headwall rises to the northwest like exaggerated Graddes Jorasses. To the west across the Glacier a gorgeous 20,000-foot peak rises abruptly, draped with hanging glaciers and elaborate snow flutings. And to our right front—Masherbrum, ascending 12,500 feet in three giant phases to a final height of 25,660 feet. The first phase consists of three massive icefalls which tumble one upon the other from a cirque below Cirque Peak, a subsidiary peak guarding the lower shoulders of Masherbrum. The second phase rises steeply from this cirque to the top of the great snow dome at 20,000 feet, and the third phase is the ever-steepening southeast face whose ice walls finally blend with the yellow-brown rocks of the summit arête.

Early in the morning George sent Dick McGowan and me on one rope, Javee and Tom Hornbein on another, up through the icefall to mark a route and choose the site of Camp I. We moved rapidly through the first icefall on hard frozen predawn snow, but the second slowed us down. As usual, we found our greatest obstacles at the

upper crest of each icefall, where the tumbling ice sections are separating from the slower-moving ice on the step. It is well to anticipate such obstacles and maneuver toward one or the other edge of the fall as you approach its crest.

The second icefall was bypassed on the climber's right, up a broad and steep lateral trough called "scaly alley" by the Britishers because it is raked by avalanches off the ridge. We chose the left center of the icefall and found the going difficult. It was quite clear that the first sun would destroy the route we were setting for the main party scheduled to follow with loads some hours behind us. Even so, we pushed through and found a perfect site for Camp I on the second step, and after leveling out tent platforms we started down. Tom and Javee returned through the icefall to retrieve wands from the false route we had taken, while Dick and I went down scaly alley to size it up as an alternative.

During World War II Leo Healy and I played a game both for fun and to sharpen our rope management. We traveled everywhere roped and carrying coils; down talus, through woods and underbrush as fast as we could go. The one in front tried to foul the one behind by going so fast the latter could not take in and let out coils. The experience helped me now, for that is just how Dick and I came down scaly alley—at full tilt, wanting to spend as little time as possible in that alley. However, further study showed the alley to be essentially free of avalanche hazard, and it thereafter became our normal route past the second icefall.

For the first ten days we enjoyed perfect sunny weather and moved a mass of supplies quite rapidly, thanks to great carrying support from our six HAPs (high altitude porters, the Balti equivalent of Sherpas) plus some Hushe's who had served with one of the British expeditions. Camp III was put on the dome and heavily stocked as an advance base. George Bell, Tom McCormack, and I then set out to find Camp IV at about 21,000 feet, near the base of the South Face. The weather for the first time showed signs of deterioration. The distance was great but the terrain gentle, and we pushed ahead in fog and snowstorm, setting in our route-marking wands and taking turns at breaking trail. On this day I realized for the first time the full depth of George's determination to climb this mountain and climb it right. We were poorly acclimatized (I was, at least), the weather was getting worse by the minute, and a camp could have been put anywhere along that route. But the *best* campsite was farther up, so farther up he went. By the time we found our way back to III following our wands, my

head was splitting and my stomach was turning flipflops. Next morning Doc Tom advised that McCormack and I return to base to recuperate.

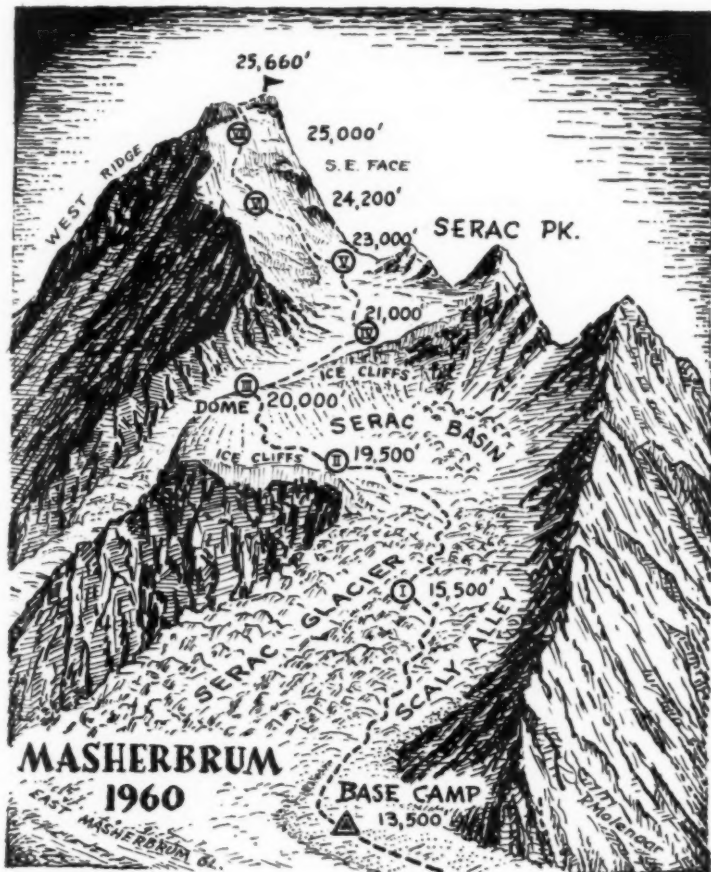
It was difficult to leave the main work force and descend, and it might seem like a waste to give up that hard won elevation, but nothing could have been wiser. To acclimatize you must go high, but if you stay too high you cannot acclimatize. The climb was only ten days old, and at 20,000 feet (Camp III) Tom and I were feeling miserable.

After two days at base camp I felt as strong as I have ever felt in my life. We were extremely eager to get back up and see what was doing and that evening Tom and I made plans for an early departure. We talked at length that evening with a bouquet of red roses on a box between us in the tent. Tom showed the finest kind of selflessness by observing that we had plenty of men ready, all extremely willing to serve in a summit assault (no doubt being planned at the moment); he was therefore content to assign himself to the work that needed doing below. Just to be in these mountains and take part in the climb is enough.

At 8 the next morning we pulled into Camp I just as the sun reached it. I felt as if I were just getting warmed up, but so was the snow, and the unbroken track to II was exceedingly long. It was hard to sit idle all day at Camp I, but we did. Next morning we set out for III, but in the cirque below Camp II we began to break through the surface, and Tom began to experience a strange loss of energy. We had to stop frequently, and soon it was all he could do to place his feet forward and I took most of his load onto mine and broke trail. We had to get to II partway up the steep lower slopes of the Dome and it became a bit of a nightmare, with Tom too weak to move more than a few yards at a time, and me too heavily laden to move any faster. At 1 P.M. we pulled ourselves into the tent at Camp II. We were both mystified by Tom's condition; no symptoms of anything, just complete loss of energy. But he felt sure he would recover with rest. I still felt strong and I was determined to go on to III (a safe route) and send Doc Tom down the next morning if McCormack did not arrive.

About 2 in the afternoon I started straight up the 35° snow slopes of the Dome. The snow got deeper and steeper as I went, and at 5 P.M. I was floundering hip deep and trying to stay on course. When I was exactly over the old track there was firm snow for footing about 20 to 30 inches down. If I moved one step off the old course the powder seemed bottomless. As I sighted on the flag ahead I tried to guess which hand it had been planted with so I could pass it on

the proper side. At about 8 that evening I finally uncovered the fixed rope which hung down the top section of the face, and hard ice underfoot made forward progress possible with less exertion even though



the angle was quite steep. I knew then I could make it to Camp III without a bivouac, but I had been very doubtful during the preceding hours. At 9 I dropped into Camp III, then occupied only by Qureshi, nursing his knees, and Impty struggling with a bit of altitude sickness.

That evening Impty told me of the plans. Camp V had been established at 23,000 feet and would be heavily occupied the next day, with all but one of the HAPs there too. The first summit team would be Unsoeld and McGowan, clearly the two strongest men; Bell and Hornbein a second team; Javee and Clinch a third; Qureshi and myself, if I arrived, a fourth pair, and Impty and McCormack a fifth. The first three teams and five HAPs were going to move in a mass above V in a day or two, locate and supply a sixth camp, and leave the first team in it. Willi and Dick would devote the next day to route preparation above VI, and try for the summit the day following, while Nick and the others were moving more supplies up to VI, maintaining contact.

I explained Tom's predicament at II and the next morning Qureshi and I started with loads for IV. If Tom did not arrive at III that morning, Impty would go down and if necessary accompany him to base. Tom arrived, however, feeling much improved, and all seemed well. On our trip to IV Qureshi and I could see a long, slow-moving train of climbers working across the center of the southeast face toward a proposed sixth camp. Qureshi's knees were acting up again when we arrived at IV.

The following morning I arose early hoping to find some way of getting the mail to V before the group took off again toward VI. I moved out on the flat and tramped M A I L in the snow in big letters hoping they would see it, know why I was on my way, and wait for my arrival, but when I came out over the rise one 500-foot step below Camp V, I saw them all just departing, so I slowed down. When I came in among the tents (one two-man Gerry and one four-man Alaska tent) I heard groaning, and found poor Razul in his sleeping bag quite sick from the altitude (about 23,000 feet). I fixed him some water and gave him pills for his headache and to make him sleep. The rest of the day I spent enjoying the view toward Chogolisa until the weather closed in.

Nick and Javee came down with the porters, having left the second team, George and Tom Hornbein, to help out at VI. The weather was cold, windy, and snowing hard. They told me that the slopes above VI were reported as very tough, in McGowan's words, "marginal climbing, at up to 70° ice." More stoves were needed, and all the fixed rope we could round up. At 5 P.M. I climbed very reluctantly out of the tent into quite a storm, started back down to IV, and that evening was overjoyed to find that Tom McCormack had arrived there, still feeling well. After another stormy round trip to V, I took a day's rest, some-

thing George Bell had not done once since we began, then resumed load carrying. Meanwhile Willi and Dick, now aided by George and Doc Hornbein, were chopping and kicking on the route above VI but not getting far. The weather continued persistently bad or marginal. Supplies began to run low at Camp VI and the four of them started down in the stormy weather.

TOM and I, at Camp IV, heard shouts and calls from far above, and crawled out to look. A hole in the fog made part of the route visible, and we could see four climbers traversing down toward V, but they appeared to be below the normal route. Three were huddled together and one was breaking trail fast toward V. Two more men (Nick and Javee) were moving rapidly out from V to join trail with one coming in. We had the distinct impression that among the three closely grouped, one was being helped. Trouble of some kind was afoot, and we started preparing to send one HAP down to III to alert those below, while Tom and I would go up to V to help out if possible. Before these plans were set in motion it became apparent that all the men above were moving on their own power, so we held fast and waited.

Later that afternoon Willi and George came into IV and told us that while descending across the face below VI the first two teams were swept off the slope by a surface slide of dry snow off the ice slopes. They had been carried about two hundred feet down before they managed to stop, and while none of them was badly hurt in any way, it had been a very close call, for they arrested themselves just short of some imposing icecliffs. Dick McGowan had been badly shaken up when the rope bound his arms during the tumble, and the doctor was bringing him down some minutes behind. They would all continue straight on to Camp III, even though it was snowing and getting late.

A most remarkable feature of this discussion was George's calm manner. He had just been caught in an avalanche, had come from VI to IV and now was about to drop to III, it was snowing all around—yet he calmly proceeded to lay out the plan for a fresh attack: Hornbein would stay at III with McGowan his patient. George and Willi would be first team, Javee and I second, and as soon as possible the four of us, plus Nick and McCormack, would take loads and all occupy Camp V, there to wait for a break in the weather. When that break came we would be in position. The two teams would move directly to VI, with Tom and Nick standing by at V as support. The next day

Javee and I would go up from VI to set up a seventh camp in the bergschrund at 25,000 feet, with Willi and George as first team following close behind. When that camp was set, Javee and I would return to VI leaving it to be occupied by the first team. Next day, the third good day, Team 1 would go to the summit and on return pass by VII, then occupied by the second team, and settle in VI. On the fourth day, if there *was* one, the second team, which now included a Pakistani climber, would try for the top.

IT DIDN'T quite work out that way. The six of us occupied Camp V as planned and began our wait for good weather. We waited five days, and our supplies ran low. Already the plan was fouled, but George was ready to counter with an alternative. To save supplies only he and Willi, as the first team, would continue the vigil at V, the rest dropping down one camp, understanding that with the first sign of a weather change Javee and I would start back up knowing that George and Willi were moving for VI. We would join them at VI the next day and resume the basic plan. We would outsmart and outlast the beastly weather!

When the four of us arrived at IV that evening the weather was already turning and next morning Javee and I started right back up. We could see the first team on its way as we proceeded. Javee and I felt quite strong and we had an early start, so we passed right through Camp V and headed for VI, and when Willi and George saw us coming they had to interrupt meal preparation and shovel out the second tent.

The Southeast Face of Masherbrum from camp IV. Camp VI and Camp VII are situated just above the numbers on the photograph.

The east or north summit is to the right, while the west or south summit—the lower of the two—is to the left.

Hornbein stands in the foreground, while several HAPS are clustered around the tents. Photograph by George Bell.

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We were all optimistic that evening together in VI. However, George had not felt too well going up to VI and he suggested that I might take his place on the first team if he was not better after the trip to VII the next day.

In the morning George and I roped up and started the rather grueling job of breaking trail toward a possible seventh camp in the bergschrund. If George was not feeling completely well it was by no means apparent as we plowed our way slowly up through knee-deep snow on slopes of about 45°. The ax made it always apparent that ice lay thinly covered. Finally, we broke out onto slightly steeper slopes approaching 50° in spots. Snow would no longer cling, and sections of the face were bare ice, polished to a fine luster by wind driven snow. We went straight up for some distance using a free-hanging rope fixed by Willi and Dick in their earlier efforts, but we chose to chop steps in the polished ice rather than labor through the snow which gathered in depressed areas. Well above Camp VI we started a traverse leading us out on the face above an ice cliff which crossed the entire face, and soon we resumed our course up the fall line toward the rocks of the West Summit. We could see Willi and Javee coming, using our tracks to gain ground fast.

They joined us halfway up the last section toward the rocks. It was now late afternoon, the upper face was in shadow, and cold was setting in fast. George and I had our down jackets on the outside of our *creations* and put them on quickly, but Willi's jacket was way inside his old army rucksack (selected unanimously as the summit pack) and Javee's jacket was also inside his pack. So at almost 25,000 feet, Javee was forced to open the *creation* while standing in meager steps on a 45° slope. After about 30 minutes of concerted effort in this task, Willi cooled off and needed his jacket also. With a few quick movements the army pack was open, the jacket on, and the pack closed again. Meanwhile, Javee struggled patiently with the laces, grommets, straps, chains, hooks, and ties and finally the *creation* was ready to be moved again, with at least some assurance that all its contents would not fall out the bottom.

At about 5:30 the four of us found the bergschrund, a very small one only 30 feet below the summit rocks. We searched for the cache of rock pitons left at the previous high point, but they were hidden in an eternity of snow. Javee and I dumped the gear which would be Camp VII and all four of us began digging out a tent site, but Javee and I had yet to return to VI, so we were forced to leave the job for George and Willi to complete. We moved down as rapidly as safety

would permit, with waist loops snapped to fixed ropes (where we had fixed ropes) and at 8 P.M. we settled into VI and slept.

Next morning at about 3 George and Willi set out from VII. Perhaps I had no rational excuse for being so optimistic, but I was completely confident that they would succeed. Had it been any other pair of climbers I might have doubted, for there certainly was good reason to anticipate failure. Two very excellent British rock climbers had been turned back on the rocks immediately above the camp Willi and George were sleeping in, and we had no rock pitons now. There is a snow and ice couloir which divides the rock toward a col between the West Summit and the true summit farther east, and we had planned all along to try this couloir before turning to the rock. But the couloir had also turned back the British. The arête beyond the col would definitely involve rock, but of what class no one could guess. A couple of rock steps looked imposing. But even on a mountain of this size human fortitude can be a factor, and my confidence must have come from taking that factor heavily into account.

On the morning of the summit try, Javee and I arose in fine sunshine. There was no point in an early departure for VII, and we began preparing breakfast outside of the tent. At about 8 A.M. we looked down and did the classic double take: three climbers were approaching our camp, obviously having left quite early. Nick and McCormack were maybe at V, but the third? And why? Camp VI had only one two-man tent. They would either turn around and go down or there was going to be quite a jam-up at VI, for Willi and Bell were scheduled to return to VI, taking our place. Five men at Camp VI? Not possible. So we slowed our breakfast and waited for their arrival. At 8:30 Hornbein, Clinch, and McGowan climbed into camp.

We all had dried fruit stew and chatted a bit, and then Nick said, "I'd best explain our trip up, since I'm the odd man in the plan." As I have explained, all reason would suggest that Willi and George would encounter many technical difficulties and might well fail in their attempt. It was obvious, as a result, that the second team should be highly qualified technical climbers. While Javee was strong and capable, he had practically no technical mountaineering experience. Furthermore, I had been ill early in the trip and now had been high for a long time, and might well be deteriorating. As a result, it appeared below that the second team was not up to the job, should the first team fail. An alternate plan was framed at Camp IV: Hornbein and McGowan, who was now well again, would take Javee to Camp VII that day. If Willi and

George returned without success, Javee would come down with them, leaving Hornbein and McGowan to give it a fresh try. If the first team succeeded, however, Javee could then accompany them, thus getting a Pakistani member to the top.

We talked this over for a time. I was very disappointed with the plan for obvious reasons, but the rationale appeared to be completely sound. So we agreed, and Tom, Dick, and Javee started up for VII around 9:30.

The day wore on and we were puzzled at not seeing anyone come out on the ice slopes above, either coming or going. In the afternoon snow particles bounded off the ice wall above our tent, announcing that someone was descending just above. I took up my ax and started up the steps around the ice wall wondering if I would meet Willi and George this early. It was Javee, with Dick and Tom following in that order. They had reached the point where the fixed rope traverses out onto the face, about a third of the way up. Dick did not feel like continuing. He had, after all, come from V that morning and his stomach was acting up. They were in the process of reversing leads at the time, and Javee started the traverse while Dick and Tom paused to discuss turning back. Javee wanted very much to continue, but Dick could not be left to return alone. So Tom ordered a retreat, calling Javee back. In trying to turn around in his steps Javee lost his balance, grabbed too late at the fixed line, and he was on his way down unbelayed. He fell off the ice onto very steep but deep loose snow, tumbling head over heels. A full length of rope joined him to Dick, and another joined Dick to Tom, but Tom was standing above Dick. Tom grabbed the rope leading to Javee in one hand, hooked his elbow around the fixed line—and waited. One hundred and twenty feet later Tom's firm grip abetted by the loose powder snow Javee was falling down—brought the fall to a stop. Javee swung over to the track up, rejoined the other two—and still wanted to go on! Why he had not snapped his waist loop to the fixed line, as he had done with me the day before, I'll never know. In any case, he was calm and oblivious. To him the event was trivial, but not to Tom and Dick. They had already wanted to retreat and now there could be no doubt. Perhaps because of Javee's casual attitude, Nick and I thought little about the fall when they described it, but when I examined the scene next day I was impressed.

At our conference at VI that afternoon no one had much to say. Dick was ill. Tom, as doctor, must accompany him down. When Javee

casually said he would like to stay at VI, I read this to mean he wanted another try, which he did. Nick also wanted to stay, and I read the same message. The three of us would go to VII the next day, see how things had fared with the first team, and try ourselves if the situation suited it. After a leisurely breakfast we started out.

It was afternoon before we saw Willi and George moving about at VII far above. They had returned from the summit late, and with George feeling rather rocky they stayed at VII, where Willi nursed him for incipient pneumonia through the night and as long as possible before starting down the next day. We met them well below VII at about 3 P.M. George was not feeling at all well, but he was grinning all over. I met him in the track, and the slope was far too precarious for any embrace, so a warm handshake was substituted. I didn't have to ask if they had succeeded. Then began another of those tedious and time consuming processes: exchanging the contents of one *creation* for the contents of one G.I. rucksack. To take one of those creations to the summit was totally unthinkable, so we performed a slightly spectacular and ticklish juggling act up there on slopes where a pair of socks would roll a mile.

Nick and Javee and I were now well behind schedule. Moreover, we learned that the tent at Camp VII would have to be repitched—it was hanging half off its very narrow platform. We arrived at the bergschrund and traced our way delicately along its lower lip until we came to the spot where the lip had been chopped down to make room for a tent and *just* for a tent. There was no room to stand. Javee and I set about chopping down sections of the upper lip, which fell into the schrund, clogging it. We then moved the tent in a foot or two over the clogged schrund. Meanwhile, Nick readied the summit pack and organized the gear. It was after dark when the three of us climbed in exhausted, Javee first, then me, then Nick. Javee fell dead asleep while I worked my way into the cramped quarters and got myself arranged, and I did the same for Nick.

When Nick's alarm went off at 2 A.M., I awoke with a headache, stomach cramps, and nausea. I've had the combination before after hard work with no food (we had had no supper) and I knew I needed food badly. A pill took care of the headache but not the stomach. Nick and Javee started melting snow while I curled up and tried to talk my stomach to sleep.

I was revived by great commotion. I opened my bag and all I could see was flame across the tent above me.

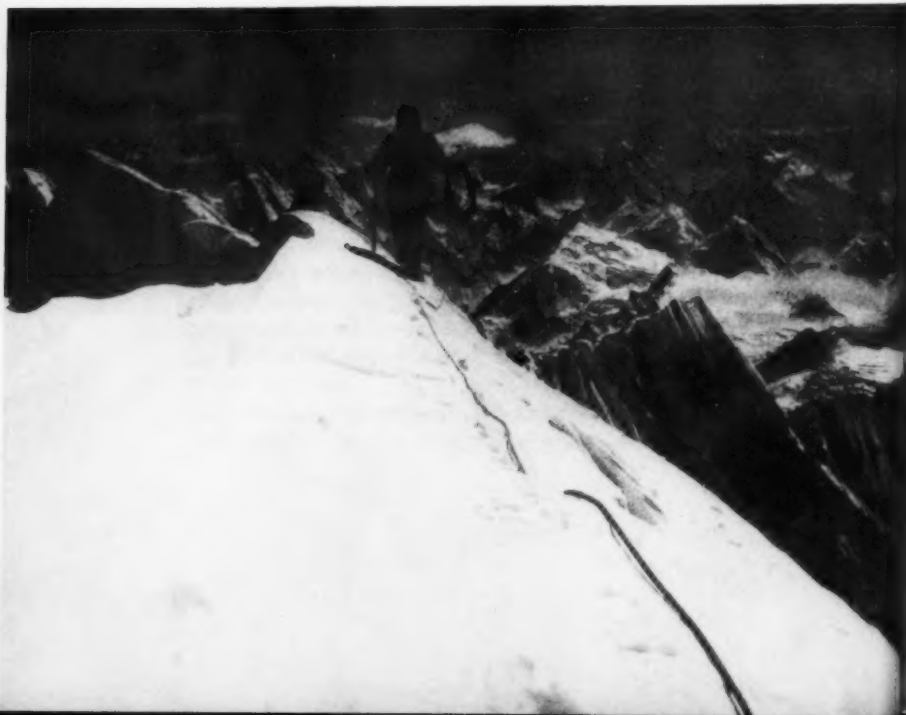
Nick threw the pot of water on the flaming stove, but this helped nothing. The tent fabric was ablaze. Although the thought didn't cross my mind at the time, we were just about to make Himalayan history—the highest fire on record, and possible serious damage from smoke to lungs already sorely tried, or panic and a traffic jam at the fire exit.

Nick dove for the rear exit. The zipper jammed. I sat up in my bag, choking, and tried to reach for the knife in my hip pocket to slice open the tent wall—reminding myself that I must do it on the uphill side!—when Javee calmly announced the fire was out. With that the tent collapsed about us.

All that had happened, we learned, was that Javee had punctured the butane cartridge before it was properly seated in its frame, and next to another burning stove. With equal calm, he had proceeded to smother the flaming torch and burning tent lining with a pair of down trousers he had been using for a pillow. A most remarkable fellow, Jawed Akbar; dead serious in his intent to scale the peak; completely unruffled by near catastrophe when it came; not too likely to detect its coming.

Javee was wearing down booties and climbed out to tie the tent back

*Willi Unsoeld approaching the summit of the north or east peak.
The rock peak to the left is the west or south summit. By George Bell.*



up; but he took no gloves. This started a chain of events—a lost glove later, plus seeming lack of concern about his frostbite—which cost him a finger. However, he will soon lead Pakistani expeditions with these experiences under his belt, and you will have to look *very* hard to find a better mountaineer and companion then.

We settled down in the damaged tent to collect ourselves. It became apparent that 7 was the soonest they could get started and my stomach would not let me climb until several hours after I had eaten. Besides, for three of us to return, most likely well after dark, to a camp so badly needing to be rebuilt, would be folly. I suggested that Nick and Javee might take off at once and give it a try. If the old tracks had held up they might be able to make it. If time was too short they could turn back. Then, if the weather held—and my stomach likewise—we might try it next day.

We collapsed the tent to have room to assemble the gear and they were off at 7:30. I lay curled up on the collapsed tent. At about 10 I was feeling better and I started moving around. Nick and Javee were still in sight starting up the couloir, and I might have tried to join them if a belay had not been so clearly required. So I set about to revamp the camp. The weather was perfect, not a cloud, not a breath of wind.

HOW can a climber possibly deserve a day so thoroughly rewarding? I felt quite fine by noon, and for the first time on the trip I could relax into total leisure. I carved out a comfortable place, sat on a folded sleeping bag with my feet hanging limp down the slope, and settled in to wait—to wait for Nick, to wait for the slow conversion of snow to water as I tossed fresh snow on my melt tarp (I was using the tent for one) to assure us a maximum water supply and spare us the fuel for an extra day if needed.

It did not come all at once, that sense of consuming solitude. At first it was just a matter of resting passively amidst spectacular scenery, but this steadily changed into a peculiarly mixed sensation of *aroused* relaxation; poised and attentive, infinitely at ease. After so much effort, to *sit* there—totally alone at 25,000 feet, surrounded by a still and motionless world of rock and ice and blue-black sky—was satisfying in a very special way. It was not the euphoria of altitude. It was the exhilaration of wilderness. Every feature of my surroundings gave evidence of violent force, yet all was calm and

fixed—like a terrible battle scene suddenly frozen in a timeless tableau; the rock and ice polished by snow-blasting winds, the graceful sweep of flutings carved on the walls by avalanche, the grind and furor of the icefalls far below. But everything was silent and motionless. My eyes followed the course of drainage down the Hushe valley; those spectacular towers and spires we were so awed with on the way in were now unidentifiable in the maze of peaks and ridges below.

Off to the left my gaze settled on the flanks of Chogolisa, and I remembered Hermann Buhl, and the lonely struggles he had so often won against his monstrous mountain opponent. Could he really have succumbed in this placid setting that surrounds him now? I raised my goggles for an unobstructed view of Beauty. That world of sharp and quiet contrasts became a sudden surge of undifferentiated silver light, bearing in on the interior of my skull from all directions, as though taking out a personal vengeance: "You would presume to see me as I really am!"

It might have been a few minutes or an hour. Then, as if an alarm had sounded, I was aware of a "drip-plop-splash" in slow rhythm, and I was drawn anxiously back to water gathering. Habits of mind associated with survival made me pathetically concerned lest some drops of water splash out and be lost to human use. I raised the container so the drips wouldn't drop so far. Maybe it was really the intruding noise I objected to. The rest of the afternoon I spent in a mild trance, broken now and then when I tossed a mittful of ice crystal on the tent fabric to melt. The passing of time was only in the shifting shadows and the slow tempo of drip-drop.

The transition between exhilaration and fear in mountain solitude is controlled by a subtle blend of factors. The unseen presence of companions on the mountain must help to waylay fear, for late in the afternoon I felt a swelling sense of apprehension. For the *n*th time, my eyes were drawn downward between my knees by the sweeping plunge of parallel flutings which now converged in deep blue far below. My eyes settled on two moving spots just about to disappear toward camp V—Willi and George, descending. In the stillness around me I had the overwhelming notion that if I were to cup my hands and shout at them—there would be no sound at all. They disappeared, and the sense of solitude settled in with a chill. I had not noticed the cold before, but now it forced me back to tasks. So reverie gave way. I chopped at the lower lip of the bergschrund and soon lowered the platform two feet, widening it to accommodate the whole tent.

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With the tent repitched and food ready, I decided to wait until I saw the party approaching before lighting the stove. I watched and they did not appear. Only a vast cold descended from the vast space above the tiny tent. I had seen them at 4 P.M. in a notch on the summit ridge and assumed they were descending, but now it was quite late and I realized they must have been ascending instead. If so, I could not expect them until well after dark.

The last sunlight left and a full moon rose to replace it, shining directly on the face of the mountain. There was still no wind. They would be O.K., I told myself, and I went to bed assured there was no need to worry.

I SLEPT very well, considering the altitude, right through to 7 A.M., awakening to find the bags beside me were still empty. Now I was alarmed. There is no tradition of bivouacking on a Himalayan giant, and Nick and Javee were not equipped even for a comfortable bivouac at alpine levels. A full night's climbing five miles high? Unheard of! I started to dress hurriedly, feeling that I should do something but wondering just what.

At that moment I heard crampons creaking toward the tent. They bore Javee, who collapsed on his bag beside me. The first words he uttered were to praise Nick and his drive and his meticulous precautions on the mountain. On that trip to the summit I think Javee was really impressed, for the first time, by the imperatives of safe and well-executed climbing practices.

Javee and Nick had been on their feet a full 24 hours. They had reached the summit at 6 P.M. Throughout the night they had descended slowly, with bright moonlight and perfect weather to aid them. On their first rappel off one of the rock steps near the summit, the rappel rope jammed *after* coming free from its sling. They were forced to abandon one rope as a result, which meant shortening all subsequent rappels to 60 feet as they descended the steep couloir. Thus, they could not rely upon the rappel pickets left by George and Willi, whose rappels were longer. Nick took every precaution to anchor or belay Javee at every step, and while they were out a long time as a result, they had handled the task with complete safety. Hence, I repeat an earlier thought: if I were to believe Nick's "I can't climb worth a darn," something would have to be wrong with my climbing standards.

The fine weather could not last forever, and we decided to get off the mountain without resting too long at Camp VII. At 3 P.M., after I had fed Javee and Nick all the liquid and food they could take between catnaps, we started down. Our loads were very heavy and Nick nearly exhausted. I took the rear and belayed them both at once to make better progress, but even so, it was nearly 11 that night before we reached Camp VI. I stayed up two more hours preparing course after course of food, and finally turned in with the usual canteen of water in my bag, and my stomach still bothering me nobly. At this point I had lost nearly all the thirty pounds the upset cost me.

It was fairly late the next morning when I opened the tent and the weather was turning bad. By the time we were all up and dressed and fed it was approaching noon. When I looked out again—I was distinctly frightened for the first time on the trip. The weather had closed in completely and it was starting to snow. We could not let ourselves get marooned at VI, and the slopes between VI and V were swept by surface slides during storms, as four of our party could testify vividly. We must try to get down and across the face before any large amount of snow had accumulated on the ice slopes. It would be a race. Could we possibly win it, with both Nick and Javee as weak as they were from their climb? And with loads even heavier now that Camp VI had been broken too? I had my doubts.

We had roped up and were just putting on our packs when we heard the wavering sound of a harmonica. Willi Unsoeld's. An incredible amount of morale was carried up the slope on its thin strains of melody. Tom Hornbein was with Willi, their forms just visible a couple of hundred feet below camp. Standing by as support at Camp V, they had seen the weather turning and, deducing the rest,* had left V early with no packs, and were here to help. In so doing they were exposing themselves—twice—to the same avalanche hazard they had been caught in before.

Willi and Tom took the loads from Nick and Javee and put Nick in the middle of their rope. We descended immeasurably faster than we could have otherwise. The weather was bordering upon a white-out, but Willi and Tom had anticipated this too. On the way up they mentally calculated a new route which would drop below a section of very steep ice. They had marked the spot where we would veer off

* Part of the deducing, as Willi Unsoeld tells the story, resulted from his having detected anxious qualities in Emerson's voice far up the slope on the repeated times Emerson called out: "Go ahead! I have you on belay. *Both of you!*"—D.R.B.

and take the fall line and had estimated the number of rope lengths to go down before resuming the traverse. We found the spot, measured out the rope lengths, and came into Camp V dead center! Tom and Willi performed the finest piece of support work three exhausted climbers could wish. Whether or not we would have won the race without them is anybody's guess. We couldn't have waited at VI for better weather; better weather did not come.

We spent the subsequent days descending pellmell into a strange and unfamiliar world where water runs and green things grow. The seasons changed before our eyes, from midwinter to the heart of summer, as we dropped down from Camp II to base. Nick and Willi and I were the last off the mountain. After more than forty days wandering its wilderness, I felt completely used up as we finally reached camp that last night. Mountaineering can produce a kind of total fatigue that is strangely, for all that, very pleasant.

At base camp Nick found among his mail a batch of reprints of a piece he wrote for the *Alpine Journal* in memory of Mohammad Akram, who was with Nick on Hidden Peak. The last section reads: "Some day Pakistani mountaineers will stand on the summits of the greatest mountains. . . ." This was more than a hope or a prediction; it was a promise. If Nick Clinch has done a lot for American mountaineering, he has done even more for Pakistani mountaineering. This, in the long run, was our success.

*Author Richard M.
Emerson just after
his return from
Masherbrum. Photo
by David Brower.*



DAVID RALPH SIMONS
1936-1960

This note must bear the sad news of the most untimely death of David Simons after a two-day illness at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he was stationed.

I never before saw so much talent cut off so short. I don't know how the Cascades of Oregon and Washington could have had a better friend.



*Photo by
Bruce Kilgore*

Dave was completing a second report on the North Cascades and was printing up some of his many new beautiful photographs of the Oregon country when he contracted hepatitis, and died in the Army hospital on December 21.

His family in Springfield, Oregon has graciously concurred with the suggestion that the Sierra Club establish a fund in Dave's memory, to be used to further the Cascades conservation objectives to which he contributed so much. His mother thinks that his "These Are the Shining Mountains" in the 1959 Annual was one of the finest things he had written in his twenty-four short years. So do we. But there was so much more he wanted to write!

We find ourselves now surrounded with the parts of things he was putting together—drafts of letters, a chapter for a book, photographs, motion pictures, reports, field notes, layouts for brochures, original maps and other ephemera that show an incisive and abundant wit—all evidence of a young man of exceeding insight, a young man of real genius. He could have put these together well, in a way no one else possibly can, as all will know who had the opportunity to watch his mind and his devotion at work.

In odd hours of off-duty time this past year, in a barrack a continent away, he tried to bring into focus the vitally needed conservation material he had gathered. Odd hours were not enough but he tried anyway. He rode a bus across the continent and back—at his own expense—to attend an organization meeting of the Oregon Cascades Conservation Council (he was also a director of the North Cascades Conservation Council in Washington), and by letter he invigorated it. He traveled up to Washington, D.C. on week-end passes to talk to conservationists there, and it was there that I last saw him in October—and felt from him the urgent need for still more action on behalf of the scenic resources of the Pacific Northwest.

One of the sad things is that so few people know how very much David did—including the stirring of people at least twice his age into action, and well-advised action, too. Few will know how great a loss his death means to conservation. It means that much history which should have been written, now cannot be—not in the absence of the unique combination of talents David was. But perhaps we can improvise, put most of the pieces together in some semblance of the order he would have worked out. We can try, and Dave would like that.

December 27, 1960

DAVID BROWER

Often people say "No one is indispensable," but this is not true. Every human being is unique, but when a person discovers the real purpose of his life, the unique purpose for which it seems he was created, he becomes irreplaceable, and there is no one else who can fill the gap which he leaves when he dies. I suppose only a few people really discover this purpose, but to do so is the richest satisfaction of life. David Simons discovered it in a few short years, thus going beyond many who have not discovered it in a long lifetime.

—The Reverend D. HUGH PENISTON
at the Simons service in Springfield



Philip Hyde

Sierra Club Policy on National Parks

I. ROUNDING OUT THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

THE SIERRA CLUB will give full support to the rounding out of the national park system while the opportunity yet remains to do so. Decisions concerning whether to set aside lands for their high-caliber scenic, educational, scientific, and recreational values should give dominant weight to the reversibility or irreversibility of choice. If too much land were set aside for preservation in this manner, the status of the land could be changed should the highest public good require such change in the future. If too little is set aside, the opportunity to serve the highest public good may be irretrievably lost.

II. NATIONAL PARK PURPOSE

The Sierra Club believes that use of the parks should be so regulated as to preserve them unimpaired for the enjoyment of present and future generations, and that preservation has clear priority. Concerning im-

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Hardly had the bill creating Yosemite National Park been passed in 1890 than stockmen rose up in indignation and used every effort and political device to have the park abolished, or at least materially reduced in area. It took strenuous work on the part of those responsible for the creation of the park successfully to resist these powerful and persistent assaults. [Robert Underwood] Johnson wrote to Muir suggesting that he form an association in California of like-minded men who would assume some of the burden of resisting these attacks, which Johnson recognized would be repeated as long as there was any chance of breaking down park boundaries.

That association was the Sierra Club . . .

Much remains to be done, and the club will have to be increasingly vigilant in the future, because the western trend of population will inevitably bring new demands for destructive inroads on our park and wilderness areas—a superlative national resource of scenic beauty that men of vision set aside not only for those who came after them, but also for those who will come after us.

—From "The Story of the Sierra Club,"

by William E. Colby, *Honorary President*

pairment, we believe that the statement of national-park purpose made in 1865 by Frederick Law Olmsted is still valid, and should be rigorously heeded in the great national parks and monuments. That statement is as follows:

"The first point to be kept in mind then is the preservation and maintenance as exactly as is possible of the natural scenery; the restriction, that is to say, within the narrowest limits consistent with the necessary accommodation of visitors, of all artificial constructions and the prevention of all constructions markedly inharmonious with the scenery or which would unnecessarily obscure, distort, or detract from the dignity of the scenery.

"It is important that it should be remembered that in permitting the sacrifice of anything that would be of the slightest value to future visitors to the convenience, bad taste, playfulness, carelessness, or wanton destructiveness of present visitors, we probably yield in each case the interest of uncounted millions to the selfishness of a few individuals."

The Sierra Club believes that this statement is consonant with the statement written into the National Park Act of 1916 by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. to the effect that the use of national parks is to be so promoted and regulated as to preserve their natural features unimpaired for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

III. GUIDELINES TO NATIONAL PARK PRESERVATION

The Sierra Club believes that the following guidelines should be used to achieve proper preservation and use of the great scenic national parks and monuments:

1. These areas should consist for the most part of wilderness in which the natural ecological complex is maintained as far as possible.
2. Some typical features of a given park should be made available for visitation. Certain park places of high appeal should be accessible to people who want to drive, not walk, and who want to sleep on a bed under a roof, not on the ground under a tree. Areas zoned for access can be considered as coves of development in wilderness.
3. All accommodations and facilities should be incident to enjoyment, use, and conservation of the park in its natural condition. They should not be intended as attractions in themselves nor be insensitively situated.
4. As the increasing recreational load overburdens the developed areas, there should be no expansion beyond the area planned for development. Instead, other action should be taken, according to the following approximate priorities:
 - a. Move utilities to areas of lesser park value.
 - b. Move employee and staff quarters to areas of lesser park value.
 - c. Gradually de-emphasize and remove extraneous attractions that bring in so many visitors as to crowd out those who come to enjoy the natural features.
 - d. Limit period of stay, but not so much as to eliminate overnight experience in the park.
 - e. Institute a reservation system for campgrounds similar to that used by the hotels, with special consideration for distant travelers.
 - f. Accommodate the surplus visitation in new developments outside the park, or in areas which may be added to the park for this purpose.
5. Concomitantly:
 - a. Do not exclude everyone from an experience merely because all cannot have it at one time.
 - b. Do not build more through highways in parks.

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Lake Ann, North Cascades, Washington

New Parks for America's Future?

"... let us keep these miracles, these splendors."

—NANCY NEWHALL, in *This Is the American Earth*

FOURTEEN PHOTOGRAPHS BY PHILIP HYDE—
OF SOME PLACES WHERE TIME IS RUNNING OUT




Near Wheeler Peak, Nevada: north from the cirque; timberline bristlecone

Whose wilderness?

*Whose the stern land, the mellowed antiquities? Of what good?
Look out from the mainmast, high above the reach
of the desert sea of sage, up where millennia have
passed since the pines were thrifty and young,
but where they persist nevertheless. How, with
no more than shards from the old peaks to sustain them?
Perhaps only the persistent can discern what persistence creates.*



. who



Separation Falls, Oregon Cascades

. whose pure waters, white or still?

*Whose the special quality in all that flows from wildness,
from unspoiled places where the compulsion to manage is at rest;
whose the lonely pool so far from pavement?
Perhaps these belong to all men, though they have not walked here,
but who may, or whose sons may.*

Tarn, Cramer Lake watershed, Sawtooth Wilderness, Idaho





Bristlecone pine, White Mountains, California

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Lakelet near Minarets, Sierra Nevada, California

. whose uplands, sculptured by wind and ice?

*While it lived, the tree withstood the hot blast of three thousand summers,
the splitting chill of the long winters; but it stands there still,
its life force gone, rivaling the parent rock in some urge to endure.
The old glacier, born of ancestral winds, carved too,
inexorably enough to gouge a mountain, gently enough to polish
a golden setting, emerald-rimmed, where a lonely pool could form
and the sky look in.*

Whose? Whose but his who would take time to come, to tread softly?



... whose wild shore?

*At the
comes
who se*

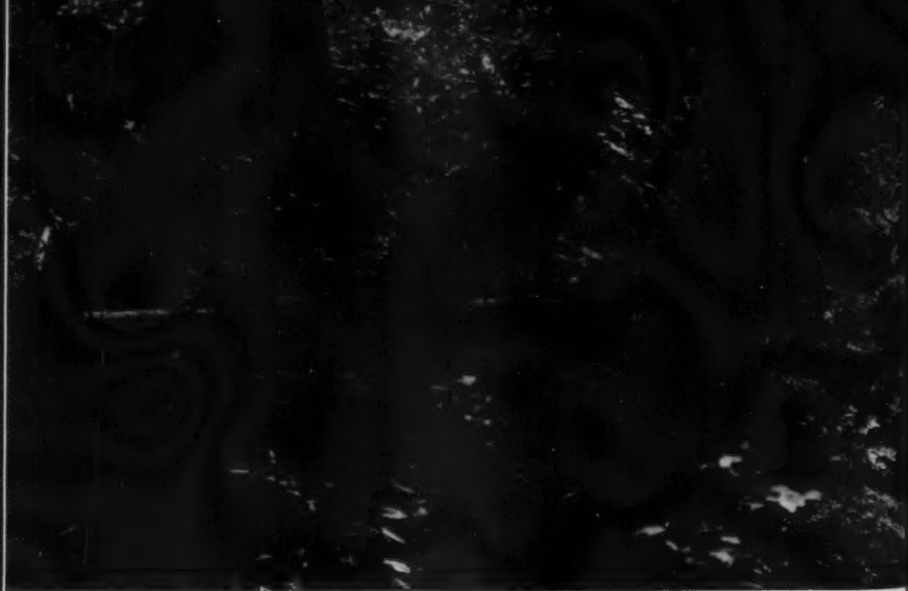


Drake's Beach,
Point Reyes Peninsula
California

2? *At the edge of the wild sea, life first came to the land, and comes still, unhurried;
comes still to the man who rests there and lets it,
who settles back to learn what belongs there, to enjoy it for what it is.*







Dawn, Rock Lake, Oregon Cascades

Whose t

*Whose
hoveri*

Or the

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Whose the quiet clouds?

*Whose the thin veil that slips low through the night,
hovering over the pond, wafting on at dawn?
Or the high white cumulus that pass in review,
deep in the shallow pool that filters their image,
clouds that refresh the primeval forest,
renew the green sanctuary, shade a man's noon?
Are they not for all who bring an eye that perceives,
an ear that listens, senses that absorb;
for those who could grasp but hold back instead?
For those content to wonder at what has always been beautiful,
then leave it a place that always will be?*

. . . whose the promise and jubilance
of a wilderness springtime ?

*Whose but his to whom promise and jubilance are worth seeking,
who would follow where the trails lead, and only trails need to,
who will himself seek out the tiny island in a wide world,
a refuge that can survive the few things a foot asks,
but not the demands of the wheel or those subservient to it?*

Ice patterns, Wing Lake, North Cascades, Washington





Inlet to Island Lake, Fremont Peak, Wind River Range, Wyoming

Square Top,
Green River headwaters,
Wind River Range,
Wyoming



... and whose the quiet avenue to wildness?

*It is for all who respect what wildness means,
who comprehend the need for a natural place,
an ever-culminating wildness the ages have made perfect.*

*It is for the
for comfort-
who does not
an irretreiva*



*It is for the man who has, but doesn't use, the tools and the arguments
for comfort-seeking that could eradicate the vestige of wildness,
who does not choose to inflict on all men who are to follow
an irretrievable loss of future choice.*



Storm, Ritter Range, Sierra Nevada

Whose? Now and always, all men's.

Always, so long as man resolves that his own rising tide is not to engulf the land islands of wilderness, resolves that instead they shall always remain a challenge, an ever-renewing old frontier for the pioneer in every man, an outside to a world that without these islands would be too tight, too tense, too homogenized, too much the world of unmitigated men.

Nothing, anywhere, has charted better protection for the noblest gestures of the natural world than has the national park idea, one of the New World's finest gifts to the Old. And—if the fleeting chance is not lost to preoccupational hazard—one of today's greatest gifts to the future.

Text by DAVID BROWER

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The Sierra Club also endorses the guidelines in Chapter III of the program of Mission 66 of the National Park Service as transmitted to the Sierra Club by National Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth (see below) with the addition of the qualifications regarding guidelines 7 and 9 as indicated:

GUIDE LINES: This chapter presents the specific program of Mission 66 for meeting the objectives of the National Park System. Recommendations discussed in the following pages are made in accordance with certain conclusions that arise from the basic national park concept of "enjoyment without impairment." The word "park" as used herein refers to any area of the System, regardless of its official designation.

This program shall further the basic purpose of the National Parks: *to conserve the scenery and the natural and historical objects and the wildlife therein, and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired* for the enjoyment of future generations.

1. Preservation of park resources is a basic requirement underlying all park management.

2. Substantial and appropriate use of the National Park System is the best means by which its basic purpose is realized and is the best guarantee of perpetuating the System.

3. Adequate and appropriate developments are required for public use and appreciation of any area, and for prevention of over-use. Visitor experiences, which derive from the significant features of the parks without impairing them, determine the nature and scope of developments.

4. An adequate information and interpretive service is essential to proper park experience. The principal purpose of such a program is to help the park visitor enjoy the area, and to obtain appreciation and understanding of it, which leads directly to improved protection through visitor cooperation in caring for the park resources.

5. Concession type services shall be provided only in those areas where required for proper and appropriate park experience, and where these services cannot be furnished satisfactorily in neighboring communities. Exclusive franchises for concessioners' services within a park should be granted only where necessary to insure provision for dependable public service.

6. Large wilderness areas shall be preserved undeveloped except for simple facilities required for access, back-country use and protection, and in keeping with the wilderness atmosphere.

7. All persons desiring to enter a park area may do so; however, it may be necessary to place a limit on the number of visitors who may enter certain pre-historic and historic ruins and structures because of limitations of space, or because only a restricted number may safely pass over or through them at one time. Lodging, dining, and camping facilities cannot be guaranteed every

visitor. [Sierra Club comment: a limit should be placed on the number of visitors entering fragile areas.]

8. Operating and public-use facilities of both government and concessioners which encroach upon the important park features should be eliminated or relocated at sites of lesser importance, either within or outside the park.

9. Where airports are needed they should be located outside the park boundaries, and use of aircraft within the areas of the System should be restricted to investigations, protection, rescue, and supply services. [Comment: use of aircraft should be permitted for supply only when feasible alternatives do not exist.]

10. Camping is an appropriate and important park visitor use in many parks, and every effort should be made to provide adequate facilities for it.

11. Picnic grounds should be provided in areas where picnicking is an important element in the visitor day-use pattern.

12. A nation-wide plan for parks and recreation areas as envisioned in the Park, Parkway, and Recreational Area Study Act of 1936 should be completed and implemented as promptly as possible in order that each level of Government—local, State, and Federal—may bear its share of responsibility in the provision of recreation areas and services.

13. Adequate and modern living quarters for National Park Service employees should be provided when required for effective protection and management. Living quarters for government and for concessioner employees, when located within the park, shall be concentrated in a planned residential community out of public view.

14. The use of a park for organized events, organized competitive sports, or spectator events which attract abnormal concentrations of visitors and which require facilities, services, and manpower above those needed for normal operation should not be permitted. (The limitation does not apply to the National Capital Parks System in the Nation's Capital.)

*"It is important that it should be remembered
that in permitting the sacrifice of anything
that would be of the slightest value to future visitors
to the convenience, bad taste, playfulness . . . of present visitors,
we probably yield in each case the interest of uncounted millions
to the selfishness of a few individuals."*



Photo by David Brower

The Campaign for Kings Canyon National Park

IN 1926 Congress passed the Sequoia National Park enlargement bill, culminating a forty-five-year effort to preserve a major part of the Kern River watershed. To leaders of the Sierra Club and other conservation groups who had fought long, and often bitterly, for the inclusion of the Kings River country in the enlargement bill, addition of the Kern and its high mountain walls on each side was only "half a loaf." Even the magic of Theodore Roosevelt's name to be conferred on the enlarged park as a memorial to the late popular President was, through five Congresses, insufficient to overcome the opposition of irrigation and power interests. But conservationists are a stubborn and, by political necessity—if the truth be known—a patient breed of men; they are willing to wait for the right moment and the right circumstances. The account that follows by one of the chief participants in the last stages of the fight to preserve the Middle and South forks of the Kings is one man's view of the campaign during its critical phase. It is used here essentially as he wrote it a few years before his death in 1954, because the reader will quickly sense the personal devotion of the author and others imbued with the wilderness park ideal, will understand the complicated organization and political judgment necessary "to put over" a public reserve for all the people, and, most important of all, will identify himself with the essential role every citizen conservationist must play if projects of this magnitude are to be realized. There are lessons here for the crusades yet to be waged in the Pacific Northwest.

Frank Alvah Kittredge, who was reared in Minnesota, migrated to the Pacific Northwest, where he graduated from the University of Washington after the turn of the century. His early career included engineering positions with the Alaska Central Railroad and the Washington and Oregon State Highway Departments before he joined the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads as senior engineer in 1917.

His interest in scenic wonderland, however, prompted him to change Washington jobs in 1927 and move to the National Park Service as Chief Engineer, a position he retained—but for a ten-year span as Regional Director in San Francisco and chief administrator at Grand Canyon and Yosemite National Parks—until his retirement in 1951. His death on December 11, 1954, closed the career of a man who understood Park

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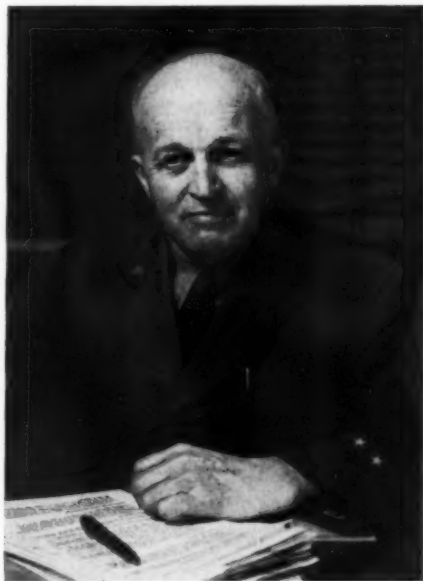
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¹ See Notes

ideals and was fearless in his devotion to them. He was a member of the Sierra Club (a director 1953-54), The Wilderness Society, American Planning and Civic Association, Save-the-Redwoods League, and the Soil Conservation Society.—HOLWAY R. JONES



The late Frank Alvah Kittredge,
Former Chief Engineer,
National Park Service, and
Regional Director, Region 4,
during the campaign.

—A Personal Recollection

By FRANK A. KITTREDGE

THE ADVOCACY of the Kings Canyon as an area to be preserved in its natural condition was started as far back certainly as 1881.¹ John Muir, with others, was keenly interested in having this region protected. Stephen T. Mather took up the cudgels for the preservation of the Kings Canyon country where John Muir left off, and there were several extremely active crusades in an endeavor to make the Kings Canyon and tributary area a national park. The last campaign was brought to a sudden end by the death of Charles Goff Thomson, Superintendent of

¹ See Notes by Holway R. Jones on page 46.

Yosemite National Park, who was carrying the program for the Director of the Park Service. Like earlier crusades, it had left considerable feeling of antagonism. At the time of the 1937-40 campaign, Harold L. Ickes was Secretary of the Interior and Arno B. Cammerer, Director of the National Park Service.

In late October, 1937, Director Cammerer was sitting in my office in San Francisco when M. P. Lohse, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce in Fresno, telephoned. He urged the Director to come to Fresno on October 25 to represent the Park Service and the Department of the Interior before a meeting of the State Chamber of Commerce at which there would be several hundred people from local Chambers of Commerce, Pomona Granges, Rotary Clubs, and a general representation from many active organizations in that part of the San Joaquin Valley. This October 25 State Chamber of Commerce meeting was the one previously scheduled for March 30, 1937, but postponed because of Superintendent Thomson's death in late March, 1937.

Cammerer replied that he would be unable to change his schedule to permit attendance. He stated, however, that he would have his Regional Director, Frank Kittredge, attend in his place. Lohse exploded, "Well, Frank will be the only one present at this great gathering who will say a good word for your Park Service." He emphasized that the feeling against the Service was running high and that it was going to be a protest meeting against the proposed Kings Canyon National Park and the Park Service.

For many years the people of the San Joaquin Valley had used the wilderness area of the Sierra for the grazing of cattle and sheep and for hunting. Both sportsmen and woolgrowers were well organized. Irrigation was a vital factor in the Valley; its residents were in particular need of the power for pumping which could be developed by the two dams at Tehipite and Cedar Grove inside the proposed park. Then there were the power interests which had played such a large part in the nullification of previous efforts to make the Kings Canyon country a national park.

Fortunately, I knew something of the several previous crusades for the establishment of the Kings Canyon National Park, and particularly of the last one which had been headed so conscientiously by Thomson and so dramatically brought to a close by his death.

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VITRIOL AND COMPLIMENTS AT FRESNO

There were approximately 200 persons (over 60 delegates) in attendance at the State Chamber of Commerce meeting October 25 in Fresno. The chairman first called upon Congressman B. W. Gearhart of Fresno and Harry Hopkins of Taft, California (neither of whom spoke), and Charles Dunwoody of the Chamber of Commerce, who was vitriolic in his denunciation of the park proposal.

He then advised that the representative of the Director of the Park Service and the Secretary was present, and asked if I would like to talk first or last. I replied in effect that I would like to talk both times.

In an eight-minute talk I told the group of my many years of association with officials of the Forest Service and my appreciation of Forest Service objectives. Reference was made to the fact that I had been Captain of Engineers attached to a Forest Regiment under Colonel Greeley² in France and later had always made it a point in my official duties, first with the Bureau of Public Roads and then with the Park Service, to call upon and keep up acquaintances with old friends in all the Forest Service regions of the West. I stated that there was not a finer group of men to my knowledge in any service than were in the Forest Service.

The statement was made that, although both the Forest Service and the Park Service were conservation organizations, there were fundamental differences in ideas of land use for certain superlative areas, but there could *never* be a difference in personalities or in friendships between myself and my friends in the Forest Service.

Attention was called to the financial value of the park to the community, that Yosemite had just served 500,000 people, and that a two and one-half million dollar crop had been harvested from their visit, that the crop would be better next year for having been harvested, and would continue throughout the years to come. Reference was made to Secretary Ickes' great interest in irrigation and in the people of the community.

That little talk seemed to take the fight out of a great many of our opponents, for they had been led to believe that there was unfriendliness on the part of the Park Service for the Forest Service, and that any crusade on the Park Service's part would be one of invectives and disparagement of the Forest Service personnel and objectives.

As a result, the spokesmen for many of the organizations simply read their resolutions, which had been previously prepared, and made little or no personal comment.

But there were two people in the audience who had the courage and the desire to urge thorough consideration and not too hasty action. These two persons were Chester Warlow, of Fresno, and E. M. Sheridan, publisher of the newspaper at Orange Cove, California.

There were numerous personal expressions of interest in my statements and attitude, and obviously the program of the opposition had been thrown into some confusion by the Park Service's elimination of personalities and acrimony. The Forest Service representative, Charles B. Morse, was particularly complimentary.

After completion of that assignment and submission of my report to Director Cammerer on October 25, I said to myself, "Thank the Lord that I haven't anything more to do on this project." It was definitely a very hot one. All of the pent up feeling of opposition to having the area made a park was boiling over, and this meeting was the opening gun for a determined crusade against the Park Service, as well as against the proposed Kings Canyon National Park.

"EFFICIENT, BUT RUTHLESS," PARK OPPOSITION

The Forest Service activities in the San Joaquin Valley were headed by the local forest supervisor, who had functioned in that region for many years, and who was a most capable person. He had the confidence of the community and rightly so. The State Chamber of Commerce was the active organization carrying the flag against the establishment of the Park.

The Chamber of Commerce officials, too, were most capable and had done and were doing a most efficient, although perhaps a rather ruthless, job in organizing the San Joaquin Valley against the Park.

However, in spite of my thankfulness for being out of this crusade, Associate Director A. E. Demaray's letter of November 26, 1937, commanded, "You are hereby designated to handle the field . . .," for renewal of the campaign for establishment of the Park.

These instructions were a source of real concern, for I realized full well the bitterness and personalities which had developed in the previous campaign. No one could doubt the power of an unfavorable press backed by organized and powerful opponents in any effort to undermine Park Service objectives and Park Service personnel.

Even friends in the Sierra Club said it was not the time to undertake establishment of the Park.

In analyzing the pros and cons of carrying out this most unpopular campaign, I felt that there could be no possibility whatever for the Park

representatives, were so worried in the not be for leadership of disruption.

Nevertheless but work park.

It should have come to the Director's firmness in troubles. Albright's encourage

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We adhere entire cannot difficult for when the motives of that our p trial and t

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Years earl the Park publisher in Los Ang Chandler,

representative to survive professionally the opposition, personal invectives, and attempts to tear down personalities when the opponents were so thoroughly established. The fact of Colonel Thomson's terrible worry in the earlier campaign, the bitter opposition, and his death could not be forgotten soon. Of course, too, I realized that a discrediting of leadership could be the Chamber of Commerce tactics and be a means of disrupting Secretary Ickes' program.

Nevertheless, the orders were in hand and there was nothing to do but work with enthusiasm and a will to win this great area as a national park.

It should be said here that as various criticisms and suggestions came to the Director, Cammerer always stood firmly behind his Regional Director to whom the task had been assigned. I believe that his firmness in support of his representative "nipped in the bud" no end of troubles. His firmness and his definite "No," supported by Horace Albright's³ report of campaign procedure and functioning, was a great encouragement from beginning to end.

Realizing that an earlier campaign had been buffeted on the rocks of personalities, I determined that there should not be a single speech or talk made by us in the Park Service office without in some way bringing in compliments to the Forest Service. Under no conditions would we try to answer in kind any personal invectives or unworthy motives by any of our opponents.

We adhered to this program of friendliness and respect throughout the entire campaign, and it proved to be most effective. It was usually difficult for the opponents to introduce personalities or unworthy motives when the Park Service was praising both the personalities and the motives of the Forest Service. In fact, from numerous sources we heard that our program of compliments for the Forest Service was a great trial and tribulation to the opponents and disrupted many of their plans.

Realizing the power of the press, we called upon editors and publishers to discuss the proposed park on a very frank basis. Most of them appreciated it.

THE TIMES: A STALWART SUPPORTER

Years earlier Stephen T. Mather, a Californian and first Director of the Park Service, had told me of his friendship with Harry Chandler, publisher of the *Los Angeles Times*, and advised me to call on him when in Los Angeles. I followed Mather's admonition. A call was made upon Chandler, and the entire matter was set before him. His comment upon

conclusion was that he had "never agreed with Secretary Ickes in anything," but in this case he did agree with him, and would be glad to help in any way he could. He then called in one of his writers, Ed Ainsworth, told him of the project, and how anxious he was to have the area established as a park, instructing him to give support in the paper in every way possible. He further suggested that I call upon Ainsworth for editorials.

All through the long crusade the *Los Angeles Times* was a stalwart supporter. Time after time we would call Ed Ainsworth by long distance phone or write him of impending meetings of Pomona Granges, Chambers of Commerce, etc., and ask him (sending him data) to get out an editorial supporting the park proposition. He never once failed. Those editorial comments were copied generally throughout Southern California, and were a tremendous help not only in the meetings at hand but in the general attitude of the local papers toward our project.

When one realizes that there were interlocking business and personal associations between Harry Chandler and the president of the Southern California Edison Company, which had been a dominant factor in earlier defeats of the Kings Canyon National Park, it was a courageous act for Chandler to take. But Harry Chandler had lots of that courage.

The local editors and publishers were not overlooked. Through our calls they knew us personally, and they knew we were working with them. They were eager for data, and we saw to it that data were given to them. They appreciated our frank discussion and our personal cordiality toward the Forest Service.

I must say here on behalf of the newspaper profession that not once, to my knowledge, did a newspaper attempt to misconstrue or distort statements given to them or our public talks. Statements which were given to them in confidence in order that they might have a better picture of the Park Service's and Secretary Ickes' objectives were always treated in confidence. Time after time, to my knowledge, when it would have been to their immediate advantage to publish derogatory statements, they refused to do so until they had contacted us. Usually the problems melted away with those conferences.

Realizing the magnitude of the job ahead, I found it necessary to assign one of my assistants to this specific project and that person was B. F. Manbey. The excellence of Manbey's approach to people, his personality, and his efficiency were well attested not only by the progress of the campaign during my tour of duty in Washington but by his many friendships.

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While in Washington I made numerous calls upon Congressman Gearheart of Fresno, who was sponsoring the bill in Congress. He of course was in contact with Secretary Ickes and Cammerer at all times, and was most courageous in his will to bring about the establishment of the Park at a time when it was unpopular among his constituents.

"BUILD UP AN ARMY"

One of Congressman Gearheart's statements made to me while serving on the Washington detail which rang in my ears throughout the crusade was, "Frank, you have got to build up an army behind me, or I can do nothing here in Congress, and that army has got to be a great stack of letters and resolutions from people and organizations all over the State of California. I have got to be able to refer to and to show these documents from my constituents demanding the establishment of the Park."

Although the campaign of winning supporters for the Park was well underway, then in the hands of the able Fred Manbey, the Congressman's statement was always before us, and those "great stacks of letters and resolutions" which he needed were written. The program of informing the public in such a manner that these letters would flow in to the Congressman is a chapter in itself. It involved literally dozens and dozens of talks by Manbey and myself before local groups, Rotary Clubs and Kiwanis Clubs, Chambers of Commerce, church organizations, women's clubs, garden clubs, and many other groups.

From the very beginning our efforts were directed toward enlisting the aid of key organizations and men who would become sufficiently interested to join the crusade for the Park.

Among such groups the John Muir Association had already signified its interest in the preservation of this area as a memorial to and under the name of the "John Muir National Park."

The John Muir Association was headed by President John Buckham and Mrs. Linnie Marsh Wolfe, Secretary. In a meeting with the Association the enthusiasm and eagerness to aid Secretary Ickes' project was obvious. Furthermore, Mrs. Wolfe as secretary was extremely aggressive, yet very pleasing and capable in her approach. The president and other members contacted were eager and did everything in their power to further this project.

There is no question but that the Association's knowledge of the Kings Canyon area, of the Park Service ideals, and their cordiality had been most favorably stimulated by Dr. Harold C. Bryant. Bryant's

part in keeping the Automobile Club of Southern California neutral. There was never to my knowledge any action by the Club adverse to the establishment of the Park. On the other hand there was much personal help given by officials of the auto club.

The Southern California Chapter of the Sierra Club was quick to join the campaign with much enthusiasm. The chairman, Stanley Jones, and other leaders undertook the program in a very businesslike and systematic manner, and as a result much educational work throughout Southern California was accomplished. Many people actively expressed themselves forcibly and in writing for the establishment of the Park.

The Board of Directors of the Sierra Club, acting for the Club as a whole, was not enthusiastic at the beginning. There were several prominent members who actively and conscientiously thought that this was not the time to undertake such a campaign. Not until Secretary Ickes' visit to San Francisco in October 1938, when he met with the Board of Directors, were they ready to proceed. They then undertook the campaign with enthusiasm.

Along with other undertakings, the Sierra Club published a fine pamphlet on the subject, "The Kings River Region Should Be a National Park," January, 1939, which they circulated not only to their members but to many others in order to present a proper picture to the public.

Incidentally, William E. Colby, then Secretary of the Club, advised that there was a Club fund which had been set up for just such a purpose during the 1924 campaign. He is especially deserving of commendation for his farsightedness and clear thinking when he suggested that the money, which amounted to around \$1800, be set aside specifically for the purpose of continuing the campaign at the proper time. When the final campaign was joined by the Sierra Club in early 1939, that \$1800 had increased to \$2100, and gave the Club its necessary funds for the publication in 1939 of its excellent bulletin and for its many other activities in favor of the park.

ICKES VISITS THE SIERRA CLUB

An interesting story hinges upon Secretary Ickes's visit with the Sierra Club Directors. It appeared that the Secretary was unfavorably impressed with the Club and letters from the Club to the Secretary were answered with Ickian brusqueness without progress toward coöperative relationships.

However, by a lucky break, the Secretary advised that he was sending his special representative, Irving Brant, who was also Secretary of the

Emergency Conservation Committee of New York, to review the park area on the ground.

It occurred to me that here was an opportunity to sell the Secretary on the Club through Brant. My first endeavor was to have Will Colby accompany us on a saddle trip through the proposed park. Regretfully he could not accept but suggested that I try to get Dr. Joel Hildebrand, Head of the Chemistry Department at the University of California. At great personal sacrifice he accepted, to my great relief. And it *was* a sacrifice, for fall registration and the first days of college were involved. However, he made his peace with his superiors and with his assistants who would carry on for him.

Also, to my embarrassment, I had to tell him that we could not under the law pay any of his expenses. But he and the Sierra Club shared our hope for a meeting of minds, and he was eager to do all he could for the furtherance of the proposed park.

Hildebrand was most effective in conveying to Brant the viewpoint of the Sierra Club on conservation in general and on the Kings Canyon in particular. Brant returned to the Secretary with clarification in his own mind regarding the Sierra Club and sold the Secretary on the character and orthodoxy of the Club. As a result of this mountain trip the Secretary "invited myself," as he expressed it, to a meeting with the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club.

The Secretary made a masterly presentation of his problems in the conservation field. For nearly an hour and a half he talked to the Club in a most frank and sincere manner. The Sierra Club was completely won over to the project and indicated its intention to join in the campaign for the establishment of the park as previously described.

THE CONSERVATIONIST HOUSE DIVIDED

Several other leading conservation groups, however, including the National Parks Association and The Wilderness Society, continued their opposition to the specific park legislation then being considered because of what they believed to be disqualifying weaknesses in the bill.

On April 6, 1939, Colby and Hildebrand, then President of the Sierra Club, wrote William P. Wharton and Albert W. Atwood, President and Secretary, respectively, of the National Parks Association, urging them to desist from their opposition to the Kings Canyon National Park, and asking them to support the present Bill before Congress.⁵ It was a very strong letter and one which, one would think, would bring results, both because of its factualness and its friendliness of tone. However, the Na-

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tional Parks Association was adamant, and on April 29 Wharton wrote that they could not support the park. James Foote, Executive Secretary of the Association, had appeared before the Committee on Public Lands April 1st in opposition.⁶

The American Planning and Civic Association, in its effort to have firsthand information, sent its Secretary, Miss Harlean James, into the Kings area. Besides obtaining valuable information she also suffered extensive injuries when her horse fell on the rocky mountainside trail. Miss James' extensive saddle trip inspection was a very great help in the Association's factual presentation. The Association's published booklet, "John Muir-Kings Canyon National Park," of March, 1939, with its list of the many California organizations which had already come to the support of the park, carried much weight with the public.

Frederic Law Olmsted, noted landscape architect who was then consultant to the California State Park Commission, wrote a strong letter in support of the Kings Canyon National Park. This letter was dated March 31, 1939, and was addressed to the "Council of the Wilderness Society, protesting the opposition of that Society to the park."⁷

The Emergency Conservation Committee, headed by Mrs. C. N. Edge, of New York City, was actively in this program long before the last campaign. It renewed its efforts actively during the last three years. Its representative, William Shultz, was sent to the Regional Office in San Francisco and visited the area with me. Irving Brant, Secretary of the Emergency Conservation Committee, also visited the area personally. The knowledge which he gained on the trip and carried back to Washington was of inestimable value.

The Committee's excellent publication, "The Proposed John Muir-Kings Canyon National Park," was given wide circulation together with other publications such as "Save the Kings Canyon from Power Dams" of April 10, 1939, and had a profound effect upon the people reached and the success of the project.

In 1938 Secretary Ickes invited Horace M. Albright to visit California to review the progress of the campaign. Albright's visit was of great assistance and lent impetus to the program among many who previously had not been active, and helped reduce the force of the opposition in other fields. His letter to the Director lending support to the campaign carried on by the Regional Director was a source of great encouragement and gave stability to the leadership.

We were unable to obtain the endorsement of the California State Legislature. The State Chamber of Commerce was too influential. But

we had more luck with the Governor. By appointment a visit was made to Culbert L. Olson in March, 1939, in Sacramento. Although business complications made it impossible to see the Governor at that time, his secretary asked what type of endorsement was wanted. The Governor's endorsement, a telegram, was directed to Secretary Ickes and was almost exactly what was requested—certainly more than I had dared hope for. On March 14, 1939, he also telegraphed René L. DeRouen, Chairman, Public Lands Committee, House of Representatives, as follows:

I am convinced that Congress should adopt the necessary legislation to set aside the Kings River region as a national park. The facts and arguments presented by Regional Director Frank A. Kittredge, of the National Park Service, in favor of this proposal are, it seems to me, persuasive and conclusive. I feel certain that the establishment of this national park is in the interest of both State and Nation and wish to go on record as endorsing House Resolution [sic] 3794.

In addition he also sent telegrams to all members of the Public Lands Committee and to several governors along the same lines.

FINALE: A WILDERNESS PARK FOR THE PEOPLE

The Park bill finally came to passage by the House of Representatives in the latter part of the Congressional Session of 1939. It looked as though it had clear sailing for passage in the Senate, but Senator Pittman of Nevada objected to the bill, and it was automatically dropped from its place on the calendar. The only way for it to have passed at this late date in the Session was by unanimous consent, and with Senator Pittman's opposition, it had no chance of passage. He at last was persuaded to withdraw his objection, presumably on the promise that he would be given time to voice his objections before a vote was taken, although the bill could not again be brought before the Senate at the first Session.

Although the bill was not passed it stood in a better position for passage at the Second Session in 1940 because it had been so thoroughly discussed in the 1939 Session, and many of the difficulties had been ironed out.

The Sierra Club, through its Secretary, William E. Colby, immediately started renewed efforts to have members write their Senators, urging passage of the Bill in its present form. He also expressed appreciation in his letter to Club members for "the most effective work already done by our loyal supporters which has already resulted in bringing this greatly desired result so near to accomplishment."

Thus H. convened January 8 to speak against to have urged mem

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⁴ National I Group 79) in feeling among

Thus H. R. 3794 carried into the second session of Congress which convened January 3, 1940. In the Senate the bill was again blocked on January 8 by Senator Pittman of Nevada who wished the opportunity to speak against the bill. And once again, the Sierra Club reaffirmed its stand to have the Park bill passed in the form as already presented and urged members to write letters to their Senators.

Finally, on March 4, 1940, the bill establishing the Kings Canyon National Park was approved in the Senate and, with the President's signature, became a reality. It is hard to express the joy and satisfaction of the people who had worked so incessantly for the park, and one can imagine the enthusiasm of John Muir and his friends who paved the way for its creation as far back as the 1870's.

This story of the 1937-1940 campaign would not be complete without mention of several people and organizations who assisted the Park Service. Of course, the fight would not have had its beginning without the foresight and insistence of men like Stephen Mather and Horace Albright. Neither could the project have been carried on against such severe and bitter opposition without Secretary Ickes' personal determination to carry out this long sought conservation ideal.

Arno Cammerer, then Director of the Park Service, was unfaltering in his encouragement and consistently supported me. I knew the opposition at various times tried to disrupt the program by having me relieved of my responsibilities as Regional Director, but Cammerer stood fast in his determination to have the campaign carried on in the present manner and by the same field personnel.⁸

NOTES BY HOLWAY R. JONES

¹ Community leaders in San Joaquin Valley agitated for preservation of the Big Trees in the decade following their discovery, but the first Congressional action came in 1881 when Senator Miller of California introduced a bill to set apart most of the present Sequoia and Kings "as a public park and forest reservation for the benefit and enjoyment of the people." No action was taken; however, nine years later Yosemite, Sequoia and General Grant National Parks were established by Congress, and in 1911 an unsuccessful bill to preserve Kings Canyon was introduced by Senator Flint. For the legislative history of these parks, see Francis P. Farquhar, *SCB*, February, 1941, 26:1, pp. 42-58.

² Colonel William B. Greeley, Chief Forester, U.S. Forest Service, 1920-1927.

³ The second director of the National Park Service, 1929-1932, and a native of Inyo County directly east of the proposed park.

⁴ National Park Service central classified records in National Archives (Record Group 79) indicate early opposition to the personal name, "John Muir" and the feeling among Service officials and some conservation leaders that better support

for the proposed park would be achieved by using the long-established name of the region. In this connection it is interesting to note a letter from Brother Fidelis Cornelius of St. Mary's College, an ardent admirer of Muir, advocating the original Spanish river name, *Santos Reyes*, for the proposed park.

² See *SCB*, April, 1939, 24, pp. 18-20, for texts of both letters and Wharton's reply of April 29.

³ The opposition of the National Parks Association to the Gearheart bill (H.R. 3794) arose from the Association's desire to have an "ideal" park without Reclamation withdrawals for reservoirs at Tehipite Dome and Cedar Grove. In his testimony Foote stated, "... Compromise has no place in the primeval national park system, for it is a precedent which weakens the whole chain. . . . Our attitude is that, if another park is to be established in that section of California, it should be established free from commercial uses and artificial features. If that cannot be done, the John Muir-Kings Canyon National Park should not be created for the sake of having another national park." (Hearings, pp. 291-292.) The Sierra Club, Emergency Conservation Committee, and the American Planning and Civic Association disagreed with this view and believed it was political expediency to support Secretary's Ickes' compromise with the irrigation and power interests, hoping at a later date these withdrawals would become unnecessary. With subsequent construction of the Pine Flat reservoir on the lower Kings, development of Courtright and Wishon reservoirs on the North Kings, and Southern California Edison Company construction at Lake Thomas A. Edison to the northwest of Evolution basin, history seems to justify Sierra Club confidence in the Secretary and his "captains" in the Park Service. (For additional viewpoints of the National Parks Association, see James A. Foote, "The Kings Canyon National Park Project—1939," *The National Parks Bulletin*, November, 1939, 14, pp. 15-18.)

⁷ Reprinted in *SCB*, April, 1939, 24, p. 21.

⁸ Although Kittredge does not refer to the fact, it is true that over the years since the creation of the Park, sportsmen, hunters, packers, cattle and sheep grazers, irrigationists—most of whom at one stage or another were bitter opponents of the proposed park and preferred Forest Service administration in the area—have become vocal supporters of the Park. Even the power interests, who succeeded in notching the western boundary of the Park at Tehipite Dome and Cedar Grove as reservations for future power withdrawals, are silent and realize that the Kings Canyon National Park, as a great example of wilderness in California, is an economic and recreational asset of incalculable value. Perhaps the day is not far off when power substitutes will make these reservations unnecessary and these beautiful canyons can be added to the Park as John Muir envisioned.

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*The story of the second ascent
of the 3,000-foot granite monolith
guarding the entrance to Yosemite Valley*

Climbing El Capitan

By ROYAL ROBBINS

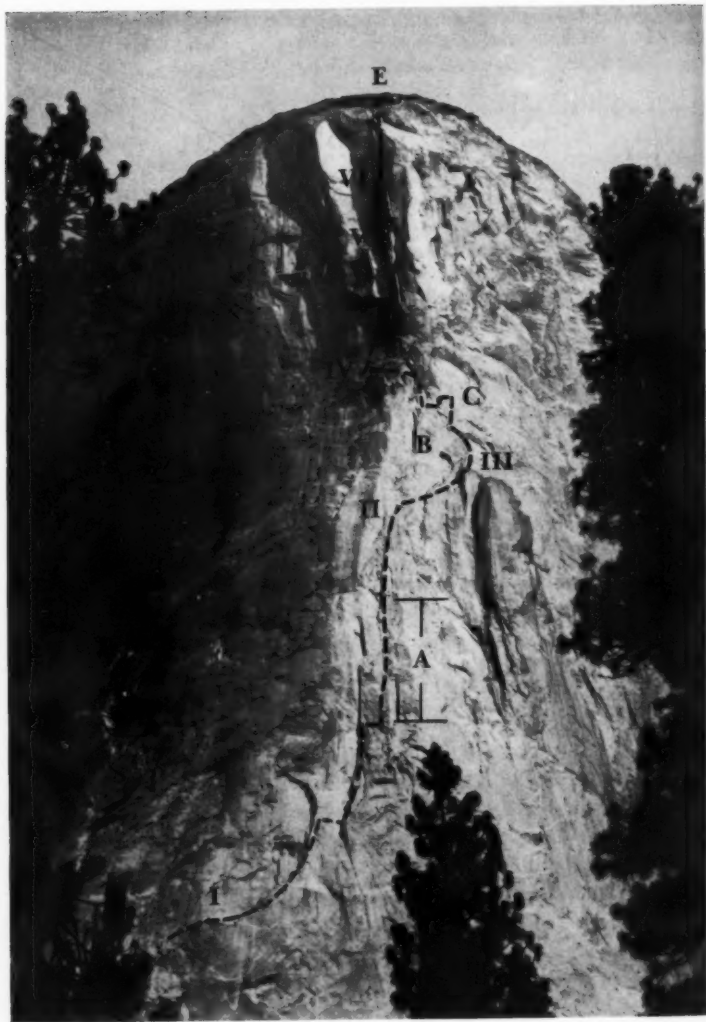
Photographs by Tom Frost

THE GREAT NOSE of the south face of El Capitan is a familiar landmark to visitors in Yosemite Valley, California. The earliest recorded estimates of the height of this huge, granite monolith vary from 400 to 1,500 feet. Actually, the cliff is fully 3,000 from toe to brow, and is (even for Yosemite) remarkably smooth and free of vegetation.

It is reported that the famous French mountaineer, Gaston Rébuffat, once looked up at the sweeping wall and predicted that it would be climbed. Nevertheless, local opinion was that the ascent would be largely a matter of placing one expansion bolt after another until a bolt ladder stretched from bottom to top. This was not an appealing prospect, and no one seriously considered climbing El Capitan until June, 1957, when Mark Powell, Bill Feuerer, and Warren Harding arrived in the Valley to attempt the first ascent of the sheer face of Half Dome. They were disappointed to find a group already making this climb; so they decided to take on El Capitan as a sort of consolation prize.

After six days and 1,100 feet of climbing they returned to the Valley floor, leaving fixed ropes from their high point. Through the next year and a half the assault on El Capitan was carried on in siege fashion, with climbers continually returning to the attack and establishing their fixed lines higher and higher, until finally, on November 12, 1958, three of them reached the top. Of the original party, only Harding was left. His companions were Wayne Merry and George Whitmore. This successful ascent was an extraordinary achievement, largely due to Harding, with his abundance of energy and determination.

In early September, 1960, four young climbers gathered in Yosemite to attempt a second ascent of the great nose. Two of this group, Chuck Pratt and Tom Frost, had been climbing only three years; however, because of their natural gifts and much intensive climbing, they were



The route: Camp I (Sickle Ledge); A (Stove-Leg Crack); Camp II (Dolt Tower); Camp III (El Capitan Tower); B (Texas Flake); C (Boot Flake); Camp IV (Gray Band); D (Great Roof); Camp V; Camp VI; and E (Summit).

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well-established in the top rank of American rock-climbers. Joe Fitschen and I were the other members of this team. Joe had been climbing for eight years and was well-known for both his climbing ability and his sociability. I, at this time, had been climbing for ten years.

From some of the men involved in the first ascent, Bill Feuerer and Wayne Merry in particular, we received much important information. Wayne informed us that there were six natural areas on the route which could be used as camps and would sleep four tired climbers. The first of these was Sickie Ledge, 500 feet off the ground, followed by Dolt Tower, 700 feet higher. El Cap Tower, 1,500 feet above the ground, was Camp 3 and marked the half-way point. Camp 4 was 300 feet higher, in the "Gray Band," and Camps 5 and 6 were on ledges 2,100 and 2,400 feet up, respectively.

We also learned that 125 expansion bolts had been placed, of which about 25 were used for various anchors and rappel points, the others being employed as direct aids to climbing. This is not an excessive number considering that rarely was it possible to place these bolts more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart. Thus, they could not have been responsible for more than $\frac{1}{8}$ of the progress, leaving a considerable portion to be climbed either free (i.e. fifth class) or by placing pitons for direct aid.

Still 125 expansion bolts do require a considerable amount of time to place.* For this reason there was no question of making the first ascent in any fashion other than by leaving fixed ropes and repeatedly returning to establish new high points. However, with the bolts in place, the route might be repeated in one effort, without returning to the ground. This was our challenge: could we haul enough food, water, and equipment to sustain us for the ten days we calculated would be required for the ascent? Water especially was a problem. Park policy prohibited attempting this potentially sensational climb during the tourist season, which extends from Memorial Day to Labor Day in September. The days in the ninth month are usually hot in the Valley, and we would be climbing in the direct rays of the sun. How much water would be sufficient? Because of weight considerations we decided to try to manage on a daily allotment of a quart and a half each.

We had gathered a large and diverse selection of rock-climbing equipment for El Capitan, which included seven 150-foot climbing ropes, and two 150-foot hauling lines of smaller diameter. We also carried 67 aluminum carabiners and 100 pitons. Tom Frost had made up a batch

* In all, a total approximate excavation of a two-inch cube of granite, under more awkward circumstances than the highway excavator contends with!—D.B.

of angle pitons large enough to fit cracks from 2 to 3½ inches wide. He onomatopoeically named these pitons "bong-bongs." Contrasted with our bong-bongs were four "rurps" (Realized Ultimate Reality Pitons), originated and manufactured by Yvon Chouinard. The rarp is a small, sturdy, knife-blade-type piton for use in exceedingly incipient cracks.

For sustenance we took chocolate, cheese, salami, various candies, tuna, raisins, and nuts. Sixty quarts of water in plastic bottles and other equipment such as flashlights and light sleeping bags brought the total weight to 200 pounds, which we divided into four duffel bags.

Our procedural plan for climbing was to split our quartet into pairs, thus having a climbing team and a hauling team, and to alternate these roles each day so as to make the fullest use of our forces.

After a leisurely breakfast on the morning of Wednesday, September 7, Joe and I, who were to be the hauling team on the first day, arrived at the base of the rock to find Chuck just finishing the lead of the first pitch. Seven hours later, after 400 feet of climbing which required the difficult art of placing adequate pitons in shallow and bottoming cracks, Chuck and Tom arrived at Sickie Ledge. After a quick lunch they climbed to a point 850 feet above the ground, then returned to the ledge.

Meanwhile, Joe and I had been struggling with the packs. We used a



*The hardware
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pulley system which reduced the weight to half, but necessitated pulling in twice as much rope. The hauling went slowly, but smoothly, that day, with one person tying the packs on below, and the other hauling them up.

That evening, because we had already made much better progress than expected, we decided to try to reach Dolt Tower the next day, rather than spend the two days we previously thought would be necessary.

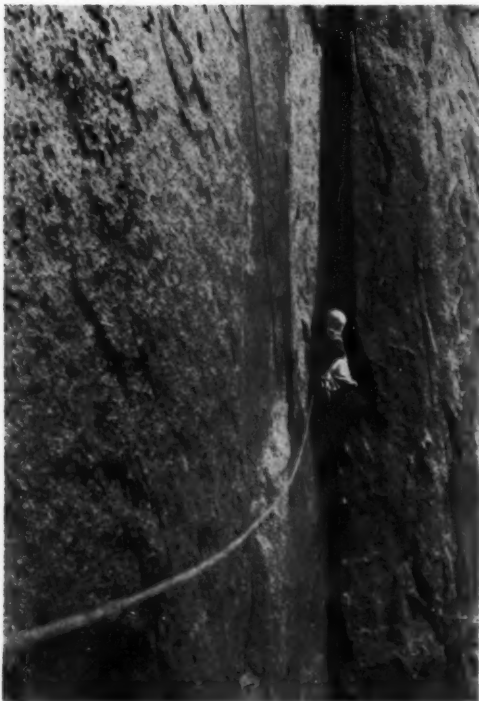
The next morning, Joe and I arose early and climbed with cautious haste, soon reaching the high point of the previous day, whence I proceeded higher, placing angle pitons in a wide crack, eventually reaching some bolts. A 400-foot vertical cleavage, called "Stove-Leg Crack," was the key to Dolt Tower and lay 40 feet to our right, across a smooth face. This single fissure received its name through the use in it of actual stove-legs during the first ascent. Joe lowered me from a bolt 70 feet above him to a point about 10 feet to his right. Then, hanging in the rope, I delicately worked my way across to the crack, and after jamming upward for 30 feet, started placing bong-bongs for direct aid. When I ran out of rope I set up a belay in slings and brought Joe up to lead the next pitch.

So the climbing went on the second day, while the sun beat down upon us with a fierce intensity which sapped our strength and lowered our confidence, causing us to wonder how we could stay strong enough to continue climbing under such conditions for many more days.

When Joe and I reached Dolt Tower, at about 6 P.M., we felt near the end of our strength; but we couldn't rest long, as help was needed with the packs. Tom and Chuck had been making heroic efforts, but the difficulties were considerable. The situation was that the packs were strung out on the face below us, hundreds of feet apart, with the nearest one 250 feet down. Because of the total lack, in this 700-foot section, of ledges from which to haul, the hauling team had decided to prusik up the fixed lines with the packs attached to them, taking one each time and then rappeling down for another.

Soon after Joe and I added our energies to the struggle, darkness fell, increasing our problems. Our efforts continued until 10:30 that night, when we finally got the last pack up. We would never have achieved this except for an astounding feat of endurance displayed by Tom. This consisted of prusiking up with a heavy pack, rappeling, and prusiking up again with another pack so many times that our friends below, in jesting admiration, nicknamed him "The Human Yo-Yo."

That night, prodded by both our terrific thirst and our desire to lighten the packs, we weighed the situation and decided we could



*Chuck Pratt
starting up from
Dolt Tower
on the third day*

probably reach the top in five more days, and so increased our individual water ration to two quarts per day.

We arose late the third morning, feeling weak. Tom, who had so thoroughly exerted himself the previous day, was still too exhausted to join Chuck to form the climbing team. To give Tom a chance to recuperate, we agreed that he would go second on the hauling team, while I joined Chuck in an attempt to reach El Cap Tower, the midpoint of the climb. Chuck and I accomplished this, and in the late afternoon we continued higher, eventually attaining the top of Boot Flake, about 1,700 feet up. Encouraging cheers from our friends in the Valley celebrated this culmination of the third day's climbing.

Though our situation had been eased that day by a cloud cover which kept most of the enervating sun rays from us, we still became desiccated and genuinely needed our individual allotment of two quarts of water.

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*Joe Fische
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The fourth morning dawned cloudy and crimson, with a threat of rain. This worried us—a long and steady rain could transform an engaging struggle into an unpleasant and serious situation.

We hadn't time to wait and see, so Joe and Tom were soon off to reach Camp 4. Chuck and I, from our position below, were able to watch them make a spectacular traverse. From the top of Boot Flake, Joe had lowered Tom 50 feet, where he hung in mid-air. Tom then began swinging back and forth on the rope, making a larger pendulum with each swing, until, barely in control, he finally gathered sufficient momentum to reach a crack far off to the left, where he held on and placed a piton. He then made another pendulum off his piton and reached some holds which enabled him to climb up to a ledge level with Joe and about 60 feet away.

Joe soon joined Tom and they diagonally traversed through the Gray Band to Camp 4, arriving early in the afternoon. They then continued climbing, reaching a high point halfway up the Great Roof pitch. The Great Roof, 2,000 feet up, is a concave overhang which juts out



*Joe Fitschen on top
of El Capitan Tower,
Robbins behind him*

from the wall 30 feet. The route goes up directly beneath this roof and then around to the right, with pitons driven straight up beneath it.

We had magnificent luck with the weather that day. Clouds and rain prevailed until late afternoon, but not enough rain to hinder our operations. The sun emerged brilliantly late in the day giving us a taste of the hot and dry time we would have had but for our friendly cloud cover. As it was, the outlook was auspicious, and the joking and clowning, which had intermittently characterized our conversation, increased in intensity. Tom in particular kept us nearly in tears with his straight-faced hilarities.

The next day, the fifth, Chuck led the Great Roof pitch and belayed me up to his position at its lip. The top overhangs were 1,000 feet away, and the route lay in a shallow recess between two huge buttresses which had smooth surfaces broken only by a few cracks, out of which occasionally grew bunches of colorful wildflowers.

The climbing up this last portion was, though often challenging, very direct, and progress was facilitated by the lightness of the packs. We measured our progress each night by the increasing amount we could see of the constellation Scorpius, which hung low in the southern sky, and became sort of a nightly friend and well-wisher.

By the end of the sixth day Joe and Tom, after much arduous hammer and piton work, had established fixed lines to within 300 feet of the top. Early afternoon of the seventh day found Chuck starting up the 27 bolts which led over the successive overhangs of the last pitch. He arrived on top at 1 P.M. and the rest of us were up by 3.

*Robbins following Pratt's lead of the
Great Roof pitch on the fifth day*



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Tom Frost and the packs below the Great Roof pitch, taken from just above it. The ground is more than 2000 feet below.

We were greeted by a group of more than twenty friends who had hiked $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles to meet us. A convivial picnic ensued, highlighted by some excellent champagne. This honest show of warmth, generosity, and good fellowship that we received at the top made our ascent, which had been the most magnificent and complete adventure of our lives, doubly worthwhile.

The contributions of many people, in the form both of services and equipment, went into this climb, and without them we could not have attempted it. Park Service authorities were very helpful and cooperative, particularly Chief Ranger Elmer Fladmark.

Our ascent, of course, does not end the possibilities for new accomplishments on El Capitan. The day will probably come when this climb will be done in five days, perhaps less; and a younger generation will make a new route on the west face.



Harold Bradley

The ideal: "[Park roads] are located and designed to best fit the topography . . . If possible, the road is 'laid on the ground' rather than cut through it."

—Dudley Bayliss, *National Park Service*, 1957

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Sierra Club Policy and Standards for National Park and Other Scenic Roads

THE SIERRA CLUB has for many years studied the problem of standards for roads in the national parks and monuments. This resulted in a statement on such roads published on April 15, 1955. Further study since then has led to the conclusions and recommendations presented in this document. These further conclusions and recommendations, like the previous ones, apply only where scenic values and park atmosphere might be endangered, and therefore apply mainly to Primary Class 1 and Class 2 roads in mountainous terrain, rather than to all park roads.

I. CONCLUSIONS

A. There are no important differences in numerical limit standards¹ for park roads as published by the Park Service September 2, 1958 (later withdrawn) and those of the Sierra Club (published April 15, 1955).

B. Some park roads constructed recently indicate that additional characteristics of park roads should be controlled by numerical limit standards. These are discussed in Section II—Recommendations.

C. The objectives sought by the Park Service and those of the Sierra Club appear to be equal. The primary concern, as stated by both organizations, is to provide appropriate safe roads which lead to scenic features or to other park destinations, and which, as required by park law, avoid unnecessary damage to the natural park landscape.

D. While the intent of the Park Service to protect and preserve scenic values in park road location and design is clearly expressed in various official statements, the mandate to use numerical limit standards, where such use will lessen damage to highly scenic values, seems to be missing.

¹ When you pack for a trip, you are asked to keep within some *limit*, say 40 pounds. Applied equally to all travelers, this is the *limit standard*, and, being expressed in terms of a specific number of pounds, it is a *numerical limit standard*. Similarly, limitations proposed by the Sierra Club to guide the design of park and scenic roads become the standards which, if followed by the engineers, will result in roads that "are laid on the land" instead of slashed through it.



California Division of Highways

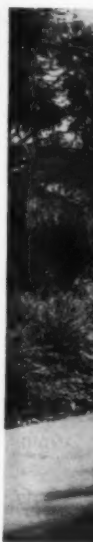
II. RECOMMENDATIONS

A. The National Park Service should reestablish the general numerical limits standards essentially as published by the Service on September 2, 1958, and withdrawn on February 11, 1959.

B. Additional specifications on the following topics are needed for areas where scenic values are at stake, to minimize scenic damage and to increase the park visitors' feeling of leisurely travel and exploration, as contrasted with high-speed and commercial transportation that are prime objectives of highways and freeways:

1. The total horizontal dimension of band width of scenic alteration should be kept to a minimum. Some maximum limit should be established, perhaps 60 feet, plus unavoidable addition due to minimum cuts and fills. As a corollary to this, the paved roadway itself should only be wide enough for safe and leisurely passage of private automobiles traveling at moderate speeds. [Continued on page 63]

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"A poor society may ask only that its products be well engineered. But a richer one is certain to require that they have beauty as well.

"In the earlier stages of industrialization the engineer is important. In the later stages he yields place to the artist. The practical man who holds that this is a lot of precious nonsense may, like the automobile makers, have to learn the truth the hard and expensive way."

—JOHN KENNETH GALBRAITH
in *The Liberal Hour*

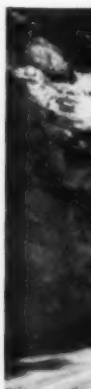
What standards mean to scenery. The benching at the left demonstrates an engineering achievement in the stabilization of a once natural coast line to accommodate a highway. Scenic values are lost in the process. In the man-made park, below, efficiency and speed were not considered as important as an atmosphere of unhurried relaxation.

Harold Bradley





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David Brower

Preservation as a function of band width. *In the scale-drawings at left by Nathan C. Clark, the top diagram shows a 110-foot band of alteration—involving a 24-foot pavement, 4-foot shoulders, 28-foot cut, and 50-foot spill. This band width could be reduced to 57 feet, as in the bottom sketch, by decreasing the pavement to 20 feet, the shoulders to 2 feet, cutting steeper at left, and using a 5-foot retaining wall at right. Application of the Sierra Club road policy relating to band width of scenic alteration can considerably reduce the area of scenic destruction (above)—as was accomplished in another section of the same park (below) where a retaining wall was used.*

National Park Service





Philip Hyde

Unusual scenery should come first; standards next. The road through this area of natural beauty and glaciated granite was once very humble (above); it was graded and curved to conform with the configurations of the land and to effect minimum damage. But no longer; high-speed standards came first when the road was realigned (below). Adherence to principles found in the Sierra Club road policy can avoid such damage.

David Brower



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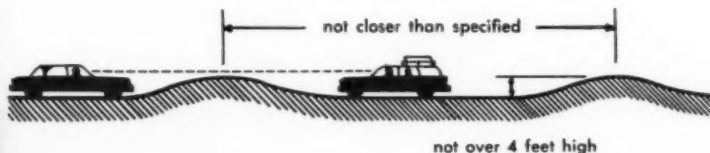
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2. Continuous shoulders of constant width should be prohibited where they would cause substantial scenic damage, and should be discouraged in general, but appropriate limits of discontinuity should be established. Shoulders should be discontinued on one or both sides and the lanes be somewhat narrowed for short distances of extreme sensitivity. There is little that gives a park road the appearance of a commercial highway quite as much as uniform shoulder width. A minimum clearance distance for trees and rocks is required for both safety and driving comfort, and beyond that shoulders are needed to provide room for parking and stopping, but it is not necessary that a driver should be able to stop his vehicle anywhere and everywhere off both sides of the pavement.

3. Limit standards should also be established for changes of gradient, corresponding to the limit standards for curvature in the horizontal plane. The use of these limits should then be mandatory wherever their use lessens scenic damage or "freeway effect." No excavation should be permitted for the sole purpose of obtaining a constant gradient. The gradient should vary, continuously if necessary within limit values, if this would reduce cuts, fills and scars.

a. Vertical curves of decreasing gradient² should have a limiting curvature as sharp as is consistent with safety as governed by driver visibility and good traction at the design speed, and passing should be prohibited where appropriate. Humps up to about four feet in

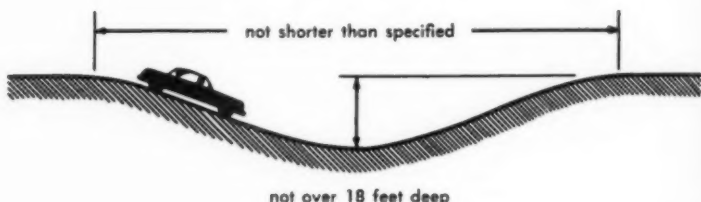


height are not visibility hazards, and no excavation should be permitted to eliminate them unless the rate or frequency of change of gradient exceeds the limit standards which should be established. In

² The term "vertical curve of decreasing gradient" is the technical description for any downward curve, such as the top of a hump, the crest of a grade where the road stops climbing and starts down, a point of decreasing steepness of an uphill grade, or a point of increasing steepness of a downhill grade.

order to avoid excessive frequency of rise and fall, it is proposed that they be not less than 260 feet apart for a road designed for 30 mph, or 350 feet for a 40 mph road.³

b. Dips can be used to minimize fill, and thus to lessen damage to meadows and other natural conditions, as well as to increase the impression of a scenic display road. Dips can be sharper than humps because they do not interfere with vision, and also because the accom-



panying acceleration is in a direction to increase traction. It is proposed that dips be permitted with lengths down to the spacing distances suggested for humps, and for the same reason. The rate of change of gradient in dips need be limited only by the maximum permissible instantaneous acceleration, which should be specified. For roads laid out with variable-radius vertical curvature, the maximum acceleration occurs at the bottom of the dip, and, based on existing road practice, can probably be permitted to reach a momentary value of 0.25 gravitational unit.⁴

4. In order to avoid the "freeway slot" effect, and to increase the

³ These spacings would result in a maximum frequency of rise and fall of ten cycles per minute, or six seconds elapsed time from hump to hump for a vehicle traveling at design speed.

⁴ An acceleration of "one gravitational unit" is the acceleration of any object that is free to move, such as a ball on a flat table, when it is pushed with a force equal to its weight; thus it is the acceleration of gravity—the behavior of, say, a rock dropped from one's hand. The Sierra Club's modest recommendation of permitting dips that will cause accelerations up to 0.25 gravitational unit can be understood by comparing this with the following common experiences:

The acceleration in stepping down a single seven-inch step is about 1.2 g's; that of rising to tip toes from a normal standing position is about 0.8 g; and rising to a standing position after sitting in a chair is about 0.3 g.

If a road were designed to these limits, its dips would be not less than 260 to 350 feet apart, depending on the speed it was designed for, and not over 18 feet deep.

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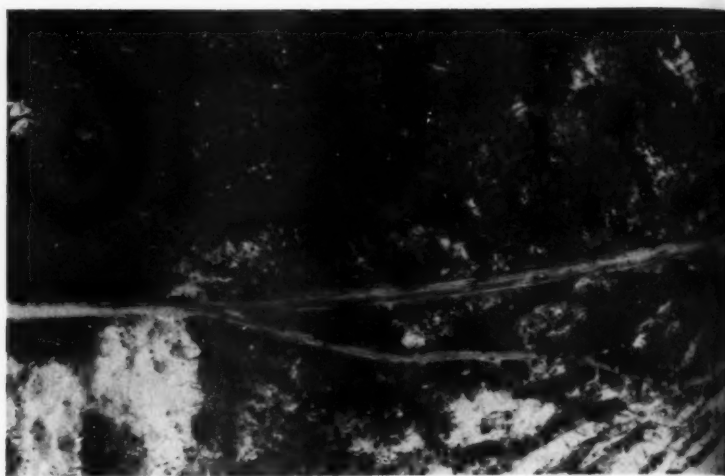
"In order to obtain substantially larger values in highway beauty by more skillful techniques in location, two requirements have to be faced. One is essentially a matter of education—primarily further education of highway engineers in the esthetics aspects of their professional work not hitherto sufficiently stressed in their training. The other is a matter of personnel in that there are a great many worthy and capable people among engineers (as in other walks in life) who cannot, even with the best of training and the best of good will on their own part, develop very skillful artistic judgments; so that existing highway staffs may need supplementing by individuals whose technical qualifications are accompanied by inherently keener esthetic discrimination."

—FREDERICK LAW OLMTED, JR., "Highways & Landscapes" *American Planning & Civic Annual*, 1935

The plan and profile should be flexible. The cuts can thus be minimized, and preferably made no deeper on either side of the road than the height of the passenger's eye above the road.

David Brower





Robin Welch

**Key to realignment: the road can be
more easily than the scene**

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David Brower



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only straightened road (above) as seen from the air. Old road may be hard to see—but not the new. More radically, realignment in forested areas (lower left) often results in wholesale destruction of natural growth.

This issue revolves around the serious question of how far development and construction programs ought to go to meet the increasing demands of traffic and the pressure of visitors, when the very act of construction may endanger or destroy the scenic grandeur, the wilderness atmosphere or the tranquil spirit that created the values that were originally worth protecting.

—JOHN B. OAKES,
New York Times, November 30, 1958



Harold Bradley

The trouble with tangents. “. . . long tangents should be avoided wherever possible . . . Instead, long-radius curves should be used.”

pleasure to park visitors and the impression of scenic display, long tangents should be avoided wherever possible, especially in forested areas. Instead, long-radius curves should be used, with radius not exceeding about 10,000 feet, except where so doing would increase excavation. [A 10,000-foot-radius curve is very gradual, curving only twenty feet in a quarter of a mile.]

5. The plan and profile should be varied as far as necessary, within limit standards, to eliminate all cuts into natural structures of unusual beauty, interest or occurrence, such as glaciated granite, eroded sedimentary deposits, scenic cliffs, mineral or rock formations, forest groves, meadows, etc.

6. The plan and profile should be varied as far as necessary, within limit standards, in order to eliminate cuts that are higher than passengers' eyes (say four feet) on both sides of the road at any one point, and also to minimize the area of exposed cut on either one side of the road anywhere.

C. It should be established as top management policy that the use of numerical limit standards is considered good practice and is mandatory wherever such use will lessen the damage to scenic and other park values.

"When the line is put through and the grading done, [natural conditions] are changed very radically. The drainage pattern under which the forest grew is no longer in existence. A resulting wind tunnel exposes the remaining trees to strains the root systems were never developed to withstand. Sunlight penetrates where it would never reach under normal circumstances. . . . the result of substantial disturbance of the balance of nature . . ." —CONRAD WIRTH, 1958

Some development is necessary; the danger today is that, under pressure, it may be going hog-wild. I venture to suggest that much of this activity—particularly the building of roads for fast cars and marinas for fast boats—is based on a mistaken premise. It is assumed that the public (as distinguished from the automobile and motorboat industries) demands these things and that the parks cannot be used without them. Is this true?

Let us go back a moment to the initial problem: the space available in the national parks is not big enough for all who want to use it. But the size of a park is directly related to the manner in which you use it. If you are in a canoe traveling at three miles an hour, the lake on which you are paddling is ten times as long and ten times as broad as it is to the man in a speedboat going thirty. An hour's paddle will take you as far away as an hour in a speedboat—if there are no speedboats. In other words, more people can use the same space with the same results. . . . every road that replaces a footpath, every outboard motor that replaces a canoe paddle, shrinks the area of the park.

—PAUL BROOKS, "The Pressure of Numbers"
in *The Atlantic Monthly*, February 1961



Mount Jefferson, Oregon Cascades, by David R. Simons

Sierra Club Policy on National Forests

ABSTRACT

The Sierra Club believes that four new steps are necessary to assure the public that the nation is making the best use, in a comprehensive and long-range view, of national forest lands:

- 1) Adoption of a system of comprehensive land-use classification to insure that all forest lands are used in accordance with carefully made plans, subjected to public scrutiny.*
- 2) Preparation and use of a check list of potential forest land uses and brief factual statements about them, to insure that all important possibilities are considered.*
- 3) Compilation of a list of general criteria to be considered in evaluating conflicting and compatible land uses.*
- 4) Development of detailed explanation and interpretation of these criteria to aid the eventual classification decisions.*

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PREAMBLE

ON NOVEMBER 5, 1892, the Sierra Club elected as an Honorary Member the then Chief of the Division of Forestry, U. S. Department of Agriculture; the club also authorized the directors to memorialize the Congress in support of the Paddock Forestry Bill, then being considered.

From its first year to the present, the Sierra Club has had a continuing interest in forestry to the end that the forests of America should provide the greatest public good in the long run. This interest brought support from the club for the creation of the U. S. Forest Service in its early primary concern with the production of timber and water, and also brought support for the evolving program of providing for other forest uses, including recreation and, more recently, including the publishing of regulations for establishing primitive and wilderness areas and of procedures for administering and protecting them as part of the broad use of federal forests.

Throughout its existence the club has also supported the designation of parts of the federal forests, and parts of other scenic resources, as national parks and monuments, in which superb examples of the scenic, ecological, geological, and historic heritage could be preserved unimpaired, for permanent public enjoyment, under what was to become the National Park Act of 1916; park use that could be coordinated with forest use on federal lands under the single jurisdiction of the federal government.

The rapidly increasing competition for land in the United States has now created the need for more specific, and to that extent, less flexible land-administering procedures on national forests and national parks, in order to protect the long-range interest from single-interest pressures. With this in mind the Sierra Club has supported the proposal to establish and protect a National Wilderness Preservation System, has urged still more efficient use of timber-sale forests, and has supported multiple use of the national forests—with provision for land-use classifications that prohibit or limit uses which are incompatible with the highest and best use of specific areas, and with assurance that the program of multiple use of national forests is not to contravene further additions to the National Park System. The Sierra Club has also supported an expedited program of reforestation and of providing for forest recreation and research.

After six years' study of land-use regulations and their application

on the national forests, the Sierra Club Board of Directors has unanimously voted to adopt the following statements of policy, which amplify the objectives of the club with respect to the national forests.

I. COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE CLASSIFICATION

In the selection of uses for forest lands no formula can quite establish the precise value of each piece of land for each potential use. Nor is there any common measure of value for weighing, precisely, the relative values of continuing versus nonregenerative uses, or of commodity uses versus the intangible aspects of recreational and scenic uses. There are steps that can be taken, however, to help assure the administrators and the public that all pertinent factors are considered and that judgments are based on a reasonably uniform understanding of principles.

One of these steps is the use of a comprehensive classification system, the application of which insures that no area is irrevocably com-



Deadman Creek Recreation Area, Inyo National Forest, California, before sanitation cut. The club believes that a new category, "Natural Recreation Area," should be established to provide a zone for public recreation under natural surroundings. Logging should be prohibited in it except for removal of hazard trees.

Photo by David Brower.

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mitted to a given use until its relative value for other uses and the degree of other use compatibility have been thoroughly considered. The requirement that all lands be classified after public hearings (per established zoning practice) provides a formal opportunity and procedure for consideration of all potential uses and points of view. The use of public hearings assures the administrators and the public that potential uses, factual data, or other criteria for judgment which can be provided by the public are not overlooked.

The classifications proposed below are intended to build on the existing classification system and conform to present law. The Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act provides a statement of the various uses and purposes to which the National Forests must be devoted and states that these lands must be so used as best to meet the needs of the American people, considering both dollar and nondollar values. The classifications proposed would accommodate appropriate zoning of each specific area of forest land, appropriate, that is, for those compatible uses which are judged to provide to the nation an optimum of value from each land area, both in the long run and in consideration of its relation to the classification of other forest lands.

Outline of Comprehensive Classification

1. Zones established by the existing U Regulations are essential, and when supplemented by zones recommended below will constitute a sound basis for a comprehensive land-use classification.

2. All portions of the national forests not previously classified under the U and L regulations should be subjected to comprehensive land-use classification after public hearing.

3. Areas now classified as Wilderness, Wild, Roadless, or Canoe should be retained in their present status. There should also be retained in wilderness status, with minor adjustments, those areas now classified as Primitive. Other areas on national forests that at present have outstanding wilderness qualities should be given appropriate status to provide full opportunity to meet future needs for outdoor recreation and for other wilderness requirements.

4. "Conservation Reserve" should be established as one of the land-use classifications to include land which is to be retained in its existing condition pending subsequent classification.

5. "Natural Recreation Area" should be established to provide a zone for public recreation under natural surroundings, including scenic recreation areas or transition zones between wilderness and commercial

forests. In Natural Recreation Areas logging would be prohibited except for removal of hazard trees and clearing for roads, trails, campgrounds, and other recreational development.

6. "Special Uses Area" should be established to provide sound solutions for particular problem areas and to provide the flexibility which is achieved in municipal zoning, involving a large number of zone classifications and the issuance of land-use permits. In applying this classification it is important that the limitations and restrictions be stated in general terms, leaving to the discretion of the managing agency the means of administering the restrictions as experience and knowledge increase. The controlling formula is that the limitations on use must be defined at the time of initial classification and that they must not be established or changed without public hearing.

7. "Unrestricted Area" should be established to provide a zone in which all uses are permitted subject only to management plans and administrative decisions. An area should be classified as Unrestricted only if the highest and best use in the long run does not warrant designation under another zone classification.

Protection of Public Interest

The Sierra Club believes that the implementation of this comprehensive classification system is urgent. The present program for the National Forests, also known as "Operation Multiple Use," which provides for the construction of about 400,000 miles of roads and the reconstruction of another 100,000 miles of roads, is in itself a program that would irrevocably destroy, without public hearings and without proper consideration of the recreation requirements of an expanding population, the possibility of establishing further Wilderness, Natural, Roadless, Natural Recreation, and Conservation Reserve Areas. The club therefore opposes the implementation of the Forest Service road construction program, except for short roads in areas in which lumbering is established and active, until public hearings have been held, to the end that each road network shall be based upon land-classification plans which will give appropriate recognition to each and all the uses and resources recognized by the Multiple Use Act after, and not before, the public has had an opportunity to be heard.

The Sierra Club further believes that, inasmuch as the Multiple Use Act of 1960 recognizes noncommodity uses in the national forests, appeals from decisions of the Chief of the United States Forest Service to the Secretary of Agriculture should be available, in the discretion of

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the Secretary, to organizations interested in noncommodity uses as well as to those interested in commodity uses. The decision of the Chief should be made public before the Secretary issues an order based upon it.

II. LIST OF APPROPRIATE FOREST LAND USES

All potential uses of each land area should be considered, together with their compatibility and permanence, before any irreversible land use decisions are made with respect to that area. The following kinds of uses, and any others specifically applicable, should be either evaluated or determined to be inapplicable.

1. *Timber production:* An important extractive use of national forests, particularly on deep forest soils with adequate precipitation. Improving silvicultural practice on private lands, development of economic substitutes for lumber, and increasing importance of other forest uses are all tending to diminish the *relative* importance of timber production on the national forests.

2. *Grazing:* An extractive use which, in the interests of watershed and soil conservation, is being gradually curtailed. Livestock production is turning more and more to managed pastures and grasslands, with less dependence on wild lands.

3. *Mining:* An important nonregenerative, extractive use of some areas, but many of the small mining claims operations are of much less

The construction of 400,000 miles of new roads in national forests and the reconstruction of another 100,000 miles—as part of "Operation Multiple Use"—will irrevocably destroy, without public hearings, most chances of establishing further Wilderness Areas.
Photo by David Brower.



social significance now than formerly. Reservation of surface rights will safeguard other forest values in some areas, but in wilderness areas mining is always a severely conflicting use and in non-wilderness recreational areas, it is often in severe conflict.

4. *Oil and gas extraction*: An important nonregenerative, extractive use, but only in petroliferous, sedimentary basins. Adequate modern regulations and reservation of surface rights can safeguard long-range forest values in most cases. Permanent conflict arises when extraction involves roads and (or) well-site excavations in lands under classifications in which such land alterations are inappropriate.

5. *Water development*: Reservoirs and other water development structures are often necessary for the best use of the water resource; also electric power generating facilities. Reservoirs and structures usually require full utilization of specific areas and involve many of the impacts of permanent, extractive uses.

6. *Watershed and soil conservation*: Now the most important use of most national forest lands; normally a nonextractive use.

7. *Roadside recreation* on the national forests, based on auto access, is an increasingly important use, rivaling water yield in its social significance. The public demand for places to camp, picnic, hike, and enjoy the out-of-doors and the natural scene is growing out of all proportion to other use needs.

8. *Fish and wildlife utilization* is an important use. This includes sport hunting and fishing and the esthetic appreciation of wildlife which is also of growing importance as a part of recreation.

9. *Wilderness recreation*, including wilderness preservation, is a nonextractive use. Wilderness preservation is of an importance to recreation transcending its actual physical use. For example, it greatly enhances the attraction of nearby roadside recreation and has a cultural importance even for those who do not experience it directly. Wilderness likewise has other values included under 10, 11, and 12, below.

10. *Scientific research*: Undisturbed areas are valuable control areas for scientific research. They likewise serve as genetic reservoirs of wild plants and animals of potential value in the future. Scientific reserves should include portions of all types of country, including the best forest sites. Scientific research also extends to experimental plantings of trees, grass, and brush and to the laudable forest range experimental stations of the Forest Service.

11. *Education*: Undisturbed areas further serve as public museums of natural ecologic communities.

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12. *Conservation reserve:* Unexploited resources on the national forests can be considered reserves for the possible use of future generations if they should choose to use them. This applies to minerals as well as to biotic resources.

III. GENERAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING CONFLICTING LAND USES

Listed below are criteria which the Sierra Club believes should be considered in making comparative evaluations of potential land uses.

1. Evaluation of uses should emphasize long-range values. In general, nonregenerative uses should not be permitted where they will significantly interfere with later use of the land for regenerative purposes, particularly where there is reason to anticipate long-range growth of need for applicable regenerative uses.

2. The value of regenerative uses for commercial purposes should be based on average annual yield, even though the crop (e.g., timber) is only harvested at long intervals.

3. Nationwide interest in a potential forest use should be the prime consideration, not the local advantage to be gained by exploitation.

4. The value and propriety of a given use or classification for a specific area should be considered in relation to the cohesiveness and balance of use throughout the region in which it is located. This includes consideration of the impact of commodity uses on adjacent non-commodity uses such as wilderness recreation zones, including noise, pollution, and damage to natural scenic environment. All appropriate uses should be provided in proper balance in the over-all forest lands. Recreational zoning should include provision for minority desires and should not assume that high density use of every recreation area is desirable.

5. Selection of areas for watershed and noncommodity classifications such as Wilderness, Recreation, and Natural Recreation areas should be based on suitability of land and forest and on long-range forecasts of watershed, recreational, esthetic, scientific, and other non-commodity needs. It should not be based on lack of usefulness for commercial purposes except when choosing between two or more otherwise substantially equivalent areas to meet these watershed and non-commodity needs. Wilderness areas should, so far as possible, have geographic, esthetic, and ecologic integrity and continuity and should include sufficient space and unity to make this possible.

6. In addition to the considerations in criterion 5, the areas zoned for wilderness recreation and preservation should collectively embrace



Groups interested in commodity uses of national forests have full rights to appeal decisions of the Forest Service. Groups interested in noncommodity uses should have equal rights.
Photo by John Warth

the broad outline of our outdoor heritage. They should include an adequate sampling of all those major types of areas which are found in our national forest lands and which have significant scenic, scientific, and recreational values. This selection should be based on studies which include a review of available major physiographic types, significant geological exhibits or biological exhibits or communities, and unusual recreational potentials.

7. Some land use decisions are reversible, whereas others involve irreversible commitments or land alterations. Irreversible decisions should be avoided, or postponed, pending further experience whenever the irreversible choice is not clearly indicated to be both correct and timely.

8. Slow-growth virgin forests have low potential average annual yields for timber cropping (see criterion 2, above) and hence must be considered substantially nonregenerative for timber purposes. In accordance with criterion 1, they should, therefore, not be used for lumbering to the extent that they are needed for present or future recreation purposes or watershed preservation. Conversely, in choosing between a slow-growth and a rapid-growth forest for recreation purposes, if the slow-growth forest is satisfactory, the rapid-growth forest can be left for timber cropping unless needed for reasons outlined in criteria 5 and 6.

9. Forest uses which cause substantial soil erosion are at least partially nonregenerative uses. The effect of such uses on soil erosion,

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watershed preservation, and long-range needs should, therefore, be considered prior to land use and (or) land classification.

10. Land needed in its substantially natural condition for outdoor recreation or wilderness preservation should not normally be diverted to water-power purposes. Fossil fuel or atomic power can always be substituted for water power, whereas adequate substitute areas are not always available for wilderness recreation. Even when water storage is essential, nonconflicting sites can usually be found if maximum water power generation is not permitted to be a dominant consideration.

IV. DETAILED EXPLANATION AND INTERPRETATION OF CRITERIA AND REASONS FOR PLACING LANDS IN SPECIFIC CLASSIFICATIONS

(Material for this section of the policy is still in preparation.)

* * *

The Sierra Club has also endorsed Resolution 2 passed by the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, September 5, 1960, which reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2—UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

A. BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs commend the United States Forest Service for its skill in estimating the nation's future timber needs and endeavoring to meet those needs. The Federation urges the Forest Service to continue and intensify its efforts in scientific management and research on those forest areas whose highest public values derive from timber production and urges adequate Congressional appropriations to finance such management activities.

B. The Federation recognizes that the Forest Service has done much to educate the public regarding the problems of forest management.

C. In recognition of the unique and urgent role of the Forest Service within the whole forestry complex, public and private, BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs urges the Forest Service to stimulate by unprecedented means the acceleration of intensive forestry, in the light of the following statistics concerning the nation's public and private forest lands—

- 1) 114 million acres, one-quarter of these lands are poorly stocked or non-stocked;
 - 2) one-quarter of the national timber cut is not utilized;
 - 3) insects, disease, and fire consume annually some 44 billion board feet of growth; and
 - 4) fifty-two million acres urgently need replanting—
- to the end that the gross potentials of timber growth will satisfy national requirements without denying the need of complete ecological wilderness units for public, scientific, wildlife, and water multiple uses.

D.* The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs urges that the U.S. Forest Service

* The Sierra Club's endorsement of this paragraph is not to be interpreted as a substitute for adoption of the comprehensive land-use classification system recommended by the Sierra Club.

continue in its program of reclassifying Primitive Areas under Regulations U-1 and U-2, and initiate a procedure for holding public hearings on the reclassification of existing Limited Areas, giving serious consideration to placing these lands in U-1, U-2, or U-3 status.

E. With the recent passage of the Multiple-Use Act, precedents for management of the national forests under the new legislation will be of great importance. It is THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs urges that the Forest Service and the Secretary of Agriculture:

1. give full consideration, under the provisions of the new law, to the vision of well-known Forest Service leaders in the past, such as Aldo Leopold, Bob Marshall, F. C. Cleator, F. A. Silcox, and others who foresaw the importance of wilderness experience in the multiple-use and land-management policies of the Service;
2. in reclassifying areas under U-1 or U-2, will give, as a dominant use, high consideration to the national heritage recognized in the low as well as the high elevation wilderness, and
3. give greater weight than appears to have been given to the integral value of lowland forested areas adjacent to higher alpine areas in wilderness classification; and
4. invite suggestions from outdoor groups for rounding out the national forest wilderness system.

F. Recognizing the desirability of attempting to measure visitation use of wilderness and wild areas in the national forests and at the same time the difficulty of fairly measuring such use in terms of number of campers or travelers compared to counts of other forest "products" or uses, It is THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs to urge the Forest Service to discontinue publishing figures purporting to measure wilderness use and by implication, if not by actual argument, comparing "wilderness" values with other "recreational values," until it has data that are quantitatively reliable and that actually measure with an adequate degree of accuracy the real use, value, and benefit of wilderness to the people of the Nation.

WALTER LEROY HUBER

1883-1960

Walter Huber came of sturdy, pioneer stock. All his grandparents traveled to California in covered wagons. His mother's parents arrived at Rough and Ready in 1849 and his father's at Kelly's Dry Diggings near Placerville in 1852. They were not successful as miners and eventually all of them settled in Yolo County. Though born in San Francisco January 4, 1883, Walter



Gabriel Moulin Studios

spent most of his boyhood on the ranch of James G. Fair, the Bonanza King, at Knights Landing in Yolo County. He graduated from Woodland High School in 1901 and went to the University of California in Berkeley, where he graduated with great credit in 1905 as a civil engineer.

Walter entered the San Francisco office of John Galloway, a distinguished structural and hydraulic engineer. The San Francisco earthquake fire of 1906 brought many important building projects to the Galloway office, and Walter grasped the opportunity to specialize on earthquake stresses and resistance in structural design. In this field he became an outstanding authority. Also, when John Galen Howard, the architect for the Greater University of California Plan, became a partner of Galloway, Walter began doing structural engineering work for the new university buildings.

In 1907 Walter joined the Sierra Club. For more than half a century he

participated in Sierra Club activities and gave his wise counsel to its deliberations. In 1908 he went on his first outing (a High Trip) to Kern River Canyon. One day when hiking to the next camp at high speed, he caught up with John Muir who was leisurely walking along the trail. Muir called out, "Young man, what is your great hurry? If you travel that fast, you are going to miss a glorious chance to see some of the best in nature. You have to saunter along and let this rare beauty soak in." Walter walked with Muir the rest of the way into camp and always looked back on this meeting as one of the worthwhile experiences of his life. Walter went on many of these High Trips and traveled with a special group of close friends who lunched together, making tea in billycans and frying trout caught by members of the party that same morning. It was on these outings that he met Alberta Mann Reed; and on November 11, 1941, they were married, to live one of the happiest of married lives. Walter was very fond of the mountains and made, with parties he led, first ascents of Mount Haeckel and Mount Powell and of the South Guard of Mount Brewer.

In 1915 Walter was elected a director of the Sierra Club, an office which he held until his resignation in 1948. He was Vice President from 1922 to 1925 and again from 1935 to 1936. In 1925-1927 he was the Club's President. From 1936 to 1946 he was its able and efficient Treasurer. He served on many committees, and through more than half a century his views on all problems were sought and respected. He was elected an Honorary Vice President in 1948 and for each year thereafter.

When Walter terminated his association with Howard and Galloway, he entered government service. From 1910 to 1913 he was Regional Engineer for the United States Forest Service, his district including California and Nevada with headquarters in San Francisco. His main duties were to pass on and supervise applications for building dams and constructing hydroelectric power plants in the national forests. Walter's contact with the Sierra Club and John Muir had made him an ardent conservationist; so when the Devil's Postpile and Rainbow Falls region was threatened with an application for the construction of a dam and hydroelectric power development, he called on the Sierra Club to help prevent the desecration which would result. He arranged for a meeting between representatives of the Club and Henry S. Graves, Chief Forester, and as Forest Service Engineer he surveyed the area to be set aside. As a result of Walter's foresight, an area of natural beauty and scientific interest was preserved when President Taft signed the Proclamation establishing the Devil's Postpile National Monument on July 6, 1911.

In 1913 Walter opened his own office and started private practice, to become one of the leading structural and hydraulic engineers in the country. He was employed many times by the Federal government, by many states, and by local agencies. During World War I he explored and made a complete survey of the Little Colorado River from its source to its junction with the Colorado with a view to determining possible power development.

When William Randolph Hearst employed Julia Morgan as his architect for San Simeon, Walter did all the structural engineering for the buildings and also designed the hydroelectric plant and huge circular concrete reservoir on the ridge above the Castle to supply water to the extensive grounds. Hearst was so impressed with the character of the work that he asked Walter to become manager of the entire Hearst San Simeon Estate of some 200 square miles. Walter wisely decided to continue with his private practice.

Walter Huber had always been prominent in local civil engineering affairs and had acted on numerous committees and as President of the San Francisco Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers. In 1926 he was elected Vice President of the national organization and served as its President in 1952-53. He went to Paris in 1953 to represent the Society at the European-United States Engineering Congress.

Walter served on the Board of Directors of the California Academy of Sciences and later as its Vice President. His wide and informed interest in the problems of conservation of our natural resources made him a valuable member of the Academy. He was elected a Fellow in 1956.

In 1953 Walter was appointed to the Secretary of the Interior's Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments. After serving three years, he became the Board's chairman and acted in that capacity until July 1, 1959. Walter's interest in conservation began in his early engineering days and grew over the years through many trips into forests and mountains. An intimate association with personnel of both Forest Service and National Park Service gave him a close understanding of their problems. He brought a wonderful background of experience and knowledge to the meetings of the Advisory Board.

In early March of 1954 a telephone call came to Walter from the White House, and this was followed by a letter from President Eisenhower asking Walter to serve as Advisor to the President for the completion of the Arkansas, White, and Red River Basins Survey. The letter reads in part as follows:

I am asking you to serve as the Adviser for the Arkansas, White and Red River Basins Survey. I am doing so with the recognition that this will be a difficult assignment, and one which has, to my knowledge, no precedent in Federal water resources planning. I am confident that your rich background in river basin development and your mature judgment will enable you to render a signal service to people of the eight basin states and to the Nation as a whole.

He undertook and completed this complicated assignment and on July 27, 1955, received another letter from President Eisenhower which states:

Thank you for advising me that the Arkansas, White and Red River Basins Survey report has been completed and that the representatives of the seven Federal agencies and eight States involved unanimously adopted a resolution authorizing its submission. . . .

I deeply appreciate the very constructive work you have accomplished as my adviser during the formulation of this report. Thank you again for your willingness to see it through to completion.

One of the honors which undoubtedly pleased Walter most was a signal recognition from his Alma Mater. On June 17, 1955, President Robert Gordon Sproul of the University of California, by authority of the Board of Regents, conferred the degree Doctor of Laws on Walter Leroy Huber, with the following citation:

Graduate of the University's College of Engineering in the Class of 1905. President in 1953 of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and in 1925-27 of the Sierra Club of California. As an engineer, skillful in structural design and hydraulic development for power and irrigation; wise in counsel to Federal and State governments of water resources and flood control. As a mountaineer and lover of nature, first to find the way to many a Sierra Peak and Wilderness refuge, and key figure in the establishment of the Devil's Postpile National Monument. Your unique contribution to State and Nation has been to combine the private practice of your profession with a high sense of public responsibility, and thus to help preserve the works of God while serving the needs of man.

Walter spent the Friday before Memorial Day weekend in his office. He had appointments on his calendar for May 31. At 11 A.M. on May 30 at the age of 77 he died without any of the suffering or the long continued illness that is the lot of so many. A rare soul had left us except for the fond memories which we cherish.

Walter was a quiet, mild-mannered, sensitive man, but beneath the surface there was an inflexible will. He was invariably fair and was ready to give all sides of any problem an open hearing. He had a lot of dry humor in his make-up and a sunny disposition. His special circle of friends were great admirers and prized his friendship. This writer, who knew him well for over half a century, has always felt that Walter was outstanding as one of his best and most worthwhile friends.

WILL COLBY

Mountaineering Notes

Edited by CARL WEISNER

With climbers concentrating on Yosemite Valley walls, a large proportion of this year's notes are about that area. The popularity of rock climbing as a sport has increased tremendously in the last few years. Consequently, first ascents of new routes and repeat ascents of more difficult routes have been numerous. The nose of El Capitan has been climbed a second time—less than a year after the initial success. (See *Climbing El Capitan* on page 47). Half Dome's north face was the scene of a second ascent this year. Traffic on the spire of the Lost Arrow, on Sentinel Rock North Face, and on Yosemite Point Buttress has been unusually heavy.

An ascent of Yosemite Point Buttress was completed last February making it the first major Yosemite Valley climb to be done in mid-winter. We will undoubtedly see more of the difficult climbs being made during winter months.

ST. ELIAS RANGE

Our party of eight flew by commercial plane to the May Creek landing strip in Alaska. From there we flew in Don Sheldon's ski-wheel plane up to an altitude of 10,000 feet on the Anderson Glacier. Our party consisted of Bud Bingham, John Shinno, Bill Davis, Sy Ossosky, Ray D'Arcy, Fred Martin, George Wallerstein, and me. We established our base camp on the glacier.

We spent two days setting up a high camp at 13,000 feet on the col between Mount Slaggard and Mount McCauley. From this camp a first ascent of Mount Slaggard (15,575 feet) was made on August 11, 1959, via the east ridge. On the following day Mount McCauley (15,475) was ascended for the first time. The southwest ridge was used for the route. These peaks, it is believed, have been the two highest unclimbed peaks in North America since 1951. After moving the high camp to a point below the west face of Mount Wood (15,880), a second ascent of this peak was made. The climb was made on the west spur, a new route.

Back at the base camp we waited out several days of storm and then began our 40-mile trip down the Anderson Glacier. After five days of crevasses, rain, leaky tents, tedious moraines and quicksand-like mud, we reached the snout of the glacier. A plane picked us up on August 26.

BARBARA LILLEY

MOUNT WADDINGTON

This fine Canadian peak was ascended by six members of the Mountaineers' Climbers Outing on August 4, 1960. The original plan was to follow the normal route up the Lower Bravo Glacier, cross the bergschrund at its head, and continue up the steep snow to the foot of the Spearman-Bravo Col. At the foot of Rainy Knob our advance party met a Canadian party that was in the area. They suggested that the prominent rock rib that forms the left side of the Lower Bravo Glacier (as seen from below) might offer an alternate route to the col. We decided to try it.

We got on the rib at a point about two-thirds of the way up the glacier, where

the snow forms an obvious path to the top of the rib. Heavy packs made the climbing along the rib awkward but no technical difficulties were encountered. We camped on the rib at the only spot where a tent could be easily pitched. The next morning we continued along the rib and arrived early in the day at the Spearman-Bravo Col. The Canadian party, consisting of two men and two women, were subsequently killed by an avalanche. Only a few pieces of their equipment were found afterwards.

ROBERT N. LATZ

THE DIAMOND EAST FACE OF LONGS PEAK

We had four members in our primary support party when we began our attempt. They participated in the work of carrying equipment and sleeping bags to Broadway via the North Chimney. This provided the shortest approach but was somewhat dangerous due to loose rock. Fixed ropes were strung in the chimney for use as hand lines. A level platform was constructed for the bivouac on Broadway.

The actual climbing began at 9:30 A.M. on August 1, 1960. The first pitch, 140 feet, was easy free climbing. The second pitch was moderate to difficult face climbing on sound rock, leading to an overhang slanting to the right. The third pitch involved direct aid to ascend the right edge of this overhang, and ended on a grass-covered platform with a large (loose) boulder, easily visible from Chasm View. The fourth pitch started up the inside of the corner above, gaining 30 feet by difficult free climbing until direct aid was necessary. Easy "nailing" brought us up to the conspicuous 6-foot overhang above, and it was passed with a single piton. Increasingly difficult nailing was encountered in the wide grass-filled crack leading from here up to the ramp. On our ascent this section was being drenched by water falling free from the chimney near the top of the Diamond. The highest point reached August 1 was about 80 feet below the ramp. A bolt was placed to reinforce the poor belay stance and to serve as a rappel anchor for the return to Broadway. The time of descent was 4:00 P.M., the early retreat being due to threatening weather.

On August 2 we prusiked back up and continued to the ramp. This feature is a sloping shelf 6 to 8 feet wide and eminently unsuited for a bivouac site. Twenty feet higher we discovered a good ledge on which a bivouac is possible. At the ramp the nature of the rock takes a change for the worse, becoming rather loose and fractured. The wall leans outward constantly for the next 400 feet and we were climbing *behind* the falling water. The sixth pitch ascends the central crack system to a point about 115 feet above the ramp. It was almost all direct aid, and piton placing was moderately difficult. Our second bolt was placed to anchor a belay in slings at the end of this pitch.

The seventh pitch continues straight up to a ledge about 225 feet above the ramp. It was moderate direct-aid climbing, except for the last 20 feet where the crack becomes suitable for jamming. The ledge is 2 feet wide and 7 feet long. We placed a third bolt here and pulled up the pack with our bivouac gear from its resting place on the ramp. It did not touch rock once on the way up.

Before dark the eighth pitch had been completed, to a point 100 feet above the ledge. It involved difficult nailing up a series of blocks and overhangs. A fourth bolt was placed at the top, and the leader descended to the ledge, removing the pitons on the way down.

We spent the night of August 2 on this two-foot ledge. The temperature was probably about 40°, and our down jackets kept us comfortable.

Early on August 3 the first man prusiked up the rope to the high point reached the previous evening, and continued on 30 feet to the point where the central chimney crosses the prominent traverse crack running across the Diamond. There is a good belay stance here in a small cave. The other climber followed on through and started nailing up the chimney. Water, moss, and overhanging chockstones soon forced a detour to a crack system a few feet to the left. At the end of this, the ninth pitch, a belay in slings was set up. At this point the wall finally ceases to be overhanging and becomes harder and the pitons more reliable.

The tenth pitch, about 60 feet long, finally brought us to a point at which we could enter the chimney, and the eleventh and final pitch was free climbing up the chimney to the top. There were several huge blocks of ice in the chimney, and it was wet and sloppy throughout. We reached the top of the Diamond at 1:15 P.M.

Details on our equipment: About 35 pitons were carried, mostly of chrome-moly hardened steel, in sizes varying from knife-blades to large angles 2½ inches wide. All but a few were removed. We placed four Star Dryvin expansion bolts, ⅝-inch-diameter by 1½ inches long, as belay anchors. They are solidly driven and, in contrast to rawl-drive compression bolts, should be reliable for a number of years. Future parties should not need to place additional bolts. Aside from the hand lines used in the North Chimney, six ropes were used on the climb. All were ⅞-inch diameter nylon. The rope used for leading was 150 feet long, the others either 150 or 120 feet. Two of them were left fixed over pitches 2, 3 and 4 to facilitate retreat or rescue, and were removed later.

DAVE REARICK and BOB KAMPS

SECOND ASCENT OF SPIDER ROCK

During Easter week of this year, Bob Kamps and I made the 900-mile trip to the Four Corners area of Arizona. Spider Rock, the 800-foot sandstone shaft in Canyon de Chelly, was first climbed in 1956 by three California climbers. (*SCB*, June, 1957, 42:6 pp., 45-49.)

The weather was good to us and the bolts left by the first party permitted us to complete the climb in one and one-half days. We found this climb a unique and challenging one, since we were more accustomed to the granite climbing of Yosemite Valley.

CHUCK PRATT

YOSEMITE VALLEY

LOST ARROW CHIMNEY

Continuing the tradition of climbing the Lost Arrow Chimney in one day less than the previous party, Joe Fitschen and I arrived at the top of this magnificent spire late in the afternoon of the second day of climbing, on September 1, 1957. This was the fourth ascent of this arduous route, and puts rather a strain on the next party, if they are to keep up the tradition.

The night was shiveringly spent at the beginning of the "Rotten Chimney," some 200 feet below the notch. Slim Fitschen saved 70 feet of nailing by squeezing

through the Harding Chimney. Egress from the notch was made via fixed lines hauled up from the Valley by Mike Sherrick. Someone had removed most of the superfluous bolts on the spire itself, leaving it a very challenging and gratifying 200-foot climb.

ROYAL ROBBINS

HIGHER CATHEDRAL ROCK NORTHEAST BUTTRESS

In early June, 1959, the steep northeast buttress of Higher Cathedral Rock was climbed by Ray D'Arcy, Terry Tarver and me. The climb took us two full days. No bolts were required, but we used an assortment of wide-angle pitons, some of them $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide. This climb can be well protected and offers a variety of difficult climbing.

Our route followed a series of cracks which start 100 feet south of the true buttress backbone. There is another system of cracks 100 feet south of our route. The two crack systems converge 400 feet above. At this point the route traverses to the left and up a crack system leading to a magnificent open chimney topped with an overhang. About 300 feet above this point is a sizeable overhang. We traversed horizontally to the left below the overhang on some easy ledges. From here there are two alternatives which join at the top. The easier route is partially hidden and is situated a pitch horizontally to the left.

DICK LONG

AHWAHNEE BUTTRESS

This 1400-foot, highly-polished wall, above the Ahwahnee Hotel and west of the Royal Arch Cascade, provides a long and interesting fifth and sixth-class route to the Valley rim. After several years of intermittent attempts to climb its mossy cracks, a route was completed on May 9-10, 1959, by Merle Alley, Jerry Dixon, George Whitmore and me.

The wall can be divided into three somewhat equal parts. Sunset Ledge (SCB, November, 1958, 43:9, pp. 75-76) constitutes the top of the first section and was used as a base camp for several attempts. The second and most time-consuming part of the climb is the smooth, high-angle wall above Sunset Ledge extending up 500 feet to a large pine tree. The third section, from the pine tree to the rim, is essentially fourth and fifth-class, but rockfall danger is considerable.

In August, 1958 we succeeded in climbing to the base of the first short vertical step, 200 feet above Sunset. A third-class crack was followed to the ledge above Sunset from which a moss garden continues up 30 feet from the left end of the ledge. The climbing to the right and up past a bush to the step was mostly sixth class. At this point, inertia plus the unhappy prospects of the next few leads turned the party back.

The dismal memories of the coming leads weren't forgotten sufficiently until the following April. The precious distance covered in August had to be regained amid rain and snow flurries. The next 150 feet of the wall is entirely devoid of useable stances, so wide nylon seat belts were added to the gear for belays from slings. The four vertical-to-overhanging steps were overcome in successive attempts in April and fixed ropes were installed. Above the last step, a huge secure flake, a comfortable belay alcove was found. The route continued up the mossy crack above the alcove, then traversed left and up using oversize angles and stove-leg pitons to a small stance left of the crack.

On the last and successful attempt, a crack up the left side of the stance was

nailed until it was possible to use the crack on the right. From the top of the crack, a traverse right into an easy trough led to the top of the second section of the wall. An adequate bivouac site was available at this point.

The third section began with 200 feet of fourth-class scrambling, then an 80-foot, fifth-class chimney brought us to a small ledge on the left. The crux of the third section was a 15-foot, vertical jam-crack which was overcome in the dark with the aid of bolts. The last 150 feet to the rim was moderate, fifth-class, open-chimney climbing. Descent was made by way of North Dome Gully.

A good selection of horizontal and wedge pitons together with a plentiful supply of angles, especially large ones, is necessary. The second section of the wall is sixth class for the most part, but the cracks are all quite adequate and the protection is excellent for the entire climb. It is difficult to conceive of an ascent of the buttress being completed in less than two days of sustained climbing.

GEORGE SESSIONS

THE ROSTRUM — SOUTHWEST CORNER

On September 23, 1959, Larry Wood and I made the first ascent of a new route on the Rostrum. The roping-up point lies on the wooded bench to the west of the Rostrum, above the sheer wall which reaches halfway from the Valley floor to its summit. The route starts in the middle of a 40-foot-wide, vertical wall lying between the rounded shaft of the Rostrum and the Valley wall, and then proceeds up the corner formed by the wall and the Rostrum itself.

The climbing starts strongly with a wide chimney and a bit of sixth class leading to a tree ledge 60 feet up. The second 80-foot lead is fifth and sixth class involving some tight chimney work and two delicate moves, one 15 feet up and one around a chockstone at the end of the lead. The first move was protected by a Phillips bolt ($\frac{1}{4}$ -inch nut and hanger removed). The third lead is also alternating fifth and sixth class, finishing with sixth class leading up an only crack to a large tree. A short chimney scramble leads up a tunnel passing through behind the Rostrum and partially roofed by a horrible looking chockstone which projects over the climbing route. The flaw lies out and up from the northwest corner via sixth class to the tunnel beneath the massive block which forms the "notch." The avenues of escape look uninviting indeed, but a wondrous "wriggle" hole was discovered just back from the southeast corner of the notch block; tight, easy fifth-class climbing replaces exposed, difficult sixth. From the notch thus attained, proceed to the summit via the standard route.

The climb took us about ten hours from the car but could be done in considerably less. We used one fifth-class bolt and 27 pitons (17 for direct aid) in climbing 350 feet of nearly vertical, interesting rock. The belay positions are excellent—three trees and two tunnel floors.

GERALD K. CZAMANSKE

HIGHER CATHEDRAL SPIRE — NORTHEAST FACE

On August 27, 1955, Jim Wilson and I made the first ascent of the Northeast face of the Higher Cathedral Spire.

The route in general lies on the right-hand side of the face as viewed from the top of the Lower Spire and proceeds up to a prominent platform beneath some impressive overhangs 150 feet below the summit. A traverse around the rather exposed north face leads to the final pitches on the western side.

From the obvious rope-up point, we climbed 30 feet around a corner to a small ledge. Two pitches up the left-hand crack of the two prominent cracks brought us to a small tree. About six pitons of direct aid were needed to attain this point. A traverse right led to ledges at the base of a moderate jam crack leading to the platform mentioned above. From this point there appear to be three possible routes: high, middle, and low. We went across the middle using a piton to pendulum from. From the tree at the end of this traverse we proceeded up a very rotten chimney behind a 20-foot flake. From the top of this flake, unexcelled, high-angle face climbing led up to Third Base on the regular route.

On the second ascent, five years later, several important variations were made. The bottom two pitches followed the right-hand crack straight up to the jam crack. From the platform, the top route was explored and climbed fifth class. This climb took about six hours and used approximately 20 pitons, 8 of which were used for sixth class.

DICK LONG

HIGHER CATHEDRAL ROCK NORTH FACE

The great north faces of Lower and Middle Cathedral Rocks had been climbed. It was logical and inevitable that the Higher Rock North Face be next. It was while descending from Middle Cathedral Rock in June, 1959 that Bob Kamps and I viewed this potential route for the first time. Its aspect was discouraging. The last two hundred feet presented a series of ceilings and overhangs which would probably require many bolts for direct aid. We made a reconnaissance at a later date by climbing several hundred feet up the Cathedral Chimney. This closer look was more encouraging as we could see a series of flakes, cracks, chimneys and ledges.

The next day Bob Kamps, Yvon Chouinard and I returned fully equipped for three days of climbing. The first pitch was overhanging sixth class nearly all the way. The next pitch required knife-blade pitons and fifth-class jamming to reach a belay ledge. The third pitch was mixed fifth and sixth class using a crack system slightly left of the previous one. Above, an excellent chimney led to a bushy ledge. As darkness approached, Yvon led one more pitch to a series of small platforms where we made our first bivouac. We had progressed 500 feet—about halfway up the face. Most of the climbing was sixth class.

The next morning Bob led a difficult sixth-class pitch followed by Yvon with another. This brought us to the great overhangs of the upper face. We decided to try a traverse left rather than bolt our way over the rotten ceilings above us. The traverse proved to be the highlight of the climb. With an occasional direct-aid piton, we tip-toed, hand-traversed, finger-tipped, and slithered 200 feet across the face. All the while 800 feet of overhanging wall disappeared beneath our feet.

After a tension traverse and a struggle with a pack, a final lead brought us to the northeast notch just 100 feet below the summit. We had completed the final member of the Cathedral Trio.

CHUCK PRATT

EL CAPITAN EAST BUTTRESS SOUTH RIDGE

This ridge extends from immediately below the start of the East Buttress climb down almost to the road. It is most evident when seen from the east. Steve Roper and I made the first known ascent of this ridge on October 4, 1959. We

started the climb just to the right (east) of the overhanging bottom step of the ridge. Heading up to a large cedar, we stayed as close to the backbone of the ridge as possible. The first five pitches were enjoyable high-angle face and friction climbing, offering good fifth-class difficulty with variety. Six pitches up is a short stretch of third class, where the "East Spur" joins the ridge. We stayed as far to the right as possible on the last three pitches. Two of these pitches have spots which are challenging if done fifth class. The descent was by the talus below El Capitan Tree. This climb is among the better of those with very short approaches and easy returns, ideal for a short climbing day. Many variations are possible. The climbing in general becomes easier the farther west you go; at many points one may come on or leave the ridge from the west. Since the name for this ridge is long, it is usually referred to as "Schultz's Ridge."

JOHN SHONLE

GOODRICH PINNACLE

On April 10, 1959, Don Goodrich and I made the first ascent of Goodrich Pinnacle. It is an exfoliation slab lying on Glacier Point apron, a hundred yards to the left of Monday Morning Slab. The route follows the left side of the slab the entire way. The right side does not reach the ground but blends into the face about two-thirds of the way up.

About a month before, Don and I, together with Judy MacFarlane and Julie Peterson reconnoitered the route and reached a point about halfway up, just under the overhang. The first pitch offers two choices, the left-hand being the easier of the two, the right one necessitating a rope traverse or a marginal traverse on micro-flakes for about 20 feet. The second pitch is easy fifth class followed by some scrambling to the base of what one could call either a chimney or jam crack, some of each technique being required. Here ensues two fifth-class pitches, the last one rather difficult. It ends with the leader being lowered from a piton to the bottom of a long flake which is climbed to the top. One can then belay from the top of the flake, stuffed uncomfortably into a small hole.

The next pitch is a short but difficult surmounting of the overhang. The overhang is followed by a fifth-class lead which goes up about 20 feet, then traverses right into the next slot. The next pitch we did sixth class due to an excessive amount of mud and running water present at that time of the year. It could be an interesting fifth-class problem in drier conditions. At the end, one can belay from a solution pocket in the side of the face. The last pitch consists of a short, easy chimney followed by three direct-aid pitons placed far apart and some scrambling to the summit. We planned the rappels so as to end one just below the overhang, where we left a ¼-inch rawl bolt and hanger in place on our first attempt. The rappel from the bolt is much easier if one has a 150-foot rope; otherwise some inconvenience is encountered in breaking the rappel. Don and I both found this an enjoyable climb comparable in difficulty, length, and time to the East Chimney of Rixon's Pinnacle.

Two months after this climb, Don was tragically killed as we were attempting a first ascent of the West Face of Mount Conness. I thought it appropriate to name this climb after him. This was the last of the many first ascents which he made during his active life.

KREHE RITTER

MIDDLE CATHEDRAL ROCK NORTH FACE

On June 28, 1959, Chuck Pratt, Bob Kamps and I reached the summit of Middle Cathedral Rock after having spent $2\frac{1}{2}$ days climbing the spectacular 2,000-foot North Face.

We roped up shortly after dawn on June 26. Ascending the 500-foot crack system near the left-hand margin of the face took up the main part of the first day. To our amazement the climbing was mainly fifth class. Near the end of the first day we reached a series of ledges which traversed the face several hundred feet to the right. A few fourth-class pitches took us to the base of the dark 500-foot chimney easily visible from the valley floor. By nightfall we had attained the only good bivouac spot in the chimney: a highly exposed, two-foot shelf just long enough for the three of us to sit on.

After an uncomfortable night, we began climbing the very rotten vertical chimney. Eighty feet of moderate climbing brought us to the base of the two most difficult leads of the climb. The first one, led by Bob, made use of shaky pitons driven upwards into rotten flakes. The second crucial pitch, led by Chuck, was up a very difficult loose chimney. Three pitches of moderate fifth- and sixth-class climbing up and to the right took us to the large ledge which traverses the North Face some 500 feet below the summit. It was here that we spent another cold, windy bivouac.

The next morning we started climbing at daybreak. A long, easy fifth-class pitch led to a ledge beneath the impressive last 400 feet. Five direct-aid pitons were needed to gain entrance to a very tight chimney behind a huge flake. Four more pitches led to the final strenuous chimney. At 2 P.M. of the third day we emerged on level ground.

As we relaxed on the slabs beside Bridalveil Creek an hour later, we counted pitons and pitches. The twenty-two pitches had required only 88 pitons, 45 for direct aid.

STEVE ROPER

LIBERTY CAP NORTHWEST FACE

Dick McCracken and I made the first ascent of this impressive wall on June 5, 1960. The route starts near the base of the junction between the northwest and southwest faces, and ascends via a few rope lengths and some third class to the top of a 400-foot pedestal. From here the climb goes straight up to a pine tree, then, bearing slightly right, up 100 feet to a small ledge. A pendulum across a 10-foot blank wall brought us to the base of a short, messy sixth-class crack. From the tiny alcove at the top of this lead, we moved via four more long, moderate pitches to third-class slabs just below the summit.

We reached the top about 1 P.M. having utilized some 25 pitons on the nine pitches. About half of the pitons placed were used for direct aid. We recommend this climb as a shady, enjoyable one which can easily be done in a short day.

STEVE ROPER

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by Robert C. Stebbins

A film story for people who care about children, telling of the importance to young and old of regional-park natural areas. Authentic background of bird calls, frog croaks, and other outdoor sounds provide the setting for the learning experiences of a fortunate little girl. Color and sound, 28 minutes, \$165.

WILDERNESS ALPS OF STEHEKIN

by David Brower

The story of wilderness, people, and mountains two hundred miles from the sea, the Northern Cascades of Washington. In sunlight and storm a family explores the exciting Lake Chelan country—the Stehekin River, Cascade Pass, Park Creek, and the White Pass approach to Glacier Peak. This poetically beautiful, award-winning film is in sound and color, 30 minutes, \$175.

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